

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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EASTERN

F.O.

371

1947

PALESTINE

File No. 84

pp. 8085-8620

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1	1	2			

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

CLOSED  
UNTIL

1978

61848



324

E

PALESTINE

E 8085

3 SEP 1948

1A

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E8085/84/51

Political Regi

Bucharest

184

21 Aug

3 Sept

S.S. Paduoch

W.S.

Refer # O. Ed 834(E7521/84/51) Encloses  
 Long Note Verbal to the Foreign Affairs  
 dated Aug 21. urging Roumanian Govt. to  
 prevent the embarkation from Roumanian  
 territory on this vessel any illegal immigrants

Last Paper.

Y998

References.

(Minutes.)

Now see E8086

3/4

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

61848

(Action  
completed.)

12/4/48

(Index)

9/9/48

Next Paper.

8086

Wt 24772/717 17855 10/38 F.O.P.

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Reference:

FO 371

61848

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No 184  
(74/41/47)

Political

HIS Majesty's Representative at Bucharest  
presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

Office of the

British....Political Representative  
Bucharest.

E 8085

21st August, 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Foreign Office telegram 834 of 20th August.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Note Verbale to Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 21st August, 1947.	Illegal Jewish immigration into Palestine.

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Reference:

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Cor

3

MOST URGENT

No. 101  
(74/41/47)

Office of the British  
Political Representative,  
Bucharest.

21st August, 1947.

NOTE VERBALE

The Office of the British Political Representative presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, with reference to this Office's Notes Verbales Nos. 79, of 26th June and 99 of the 19th August, has the honour to inform the Ministry that the s.s. "Paducah" has entered the Black Sea in ballast, presumably to embark illegal Jewish immigrants for Palestine.

2. His Majesty's Government attach the greatest importance to the prevention of this illegal traffic, and urgently request the Roumanian Government to prevent the embarkation from Roumanian territory onto this vessel of any immigrants who are not in possession of valid national passports duly visaed by this Office for entry to Palestine.

3. Furthermore, this Office requests that the Roumanian authorities at any Roumanian port at which this vessel may call should apply to her the provisions of the Load Line Convention and the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, to both of which Roumania is a party. These provisions should be applied whether the ship embarks passengers or not.

4. The Office of the British Political Representative would be most grateful if this matter were treated as one of great urgency and importance, and if the necessary measures to prevent the embarkation of illegal immigrants were applied forthwith.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Bucharest.



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E

E 8086

PALESTINE

3 SEP

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E8086/84/31

Political Regi  
Bucharest

187

22 Aug  
3 Sept

S. S. 'Paducah'  
Refer 7001 834 (EY 21/84/31) Enclosed  
copy of note Verbale to my Foreign  
Affairs of Aug 22. Re prevention of  
illegal immigration on S.S. Paducah.

Last Paper.

8085

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action  
completed.)

24/9.

(Index.)

24/9/84

Next Paper.

8087

(Minutes.)

Please see also E 8085

3/9

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## 6

No. 104  
(349/25/47)

**22nd August, 1947.**

NOTE VENEZIA

2. It would appear that illegal Jewish immigrants are preparing to embark on board this vessel from Roumanian territory and are said to hold visas for Uruguay.

3. The Office of the British Political Representative wishes to inform the Roumanian Government that such visas, if indeed held, are probably forgeries or visas issued by a person not qualified to grant them.

4. Furthermore, this Office wishes to point out that the s.s. Paducah, of 240 tons register, is incapable of carrying passengers to South America and that the true destination of any Jews who embark upon her must be obvious to the Roumanian authorities, failing the possession by such passengers of valid transit visas which would enable them to tranship at some intermediate port from this small hulk to a vessel capable of taking them across the Atlantic Ocean.

5. Under these circumstances, the Office of the British Political Representative is confident that the Roumanian Government will prevent the embarkation of immigrants on this vessel, irrespective of their declared destination and any unverified visas they may possess to support such a pretence.

A circular black and white stamp. The outer ring contains the text "MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS" at the top and "REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA" at the bottom. In the center, there is a smaller circle with the word "SOFIA" at the top and "BULGARIA" at the bottom. The stamp is slightly tilted.

1 2 3 4 5 6

1 2

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E

E 8087

7

PALESTINE

3 SEP

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E8087/84/31

G.O. Crossley

Embassy

Paris

28 Aug

3 Sept

S.S. "Northlands" and "Paducah" W.S.

From text of conversation with Panamanian  
Minister re the two suspect ships.  
"Paducah" and "Northlands"

Last Paper.

8086

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action  
completed.)

(Index.)

E8087/22/9

10/16/48

Next Paper.

8088

(Minutes.)

I told Mr. Crossley that the "PADUCAH"  
had actually arrived at VARNA and  
suggested that he should now ask  
the Panamanians to act on the promise  
contained referred in the last paragraph  
but two of this letter. He did so,  
but with only partial success. Please  
see E 8129.

We might now ask H.M.  
Minister in Panama to put more  
pressure on the Panamanian Govt.  
Our telegram to Panama (no. 92  
of 20th August in E 7618) has not yet  
been answered. We could make use  
of the evidence contained in Algiers  
Despatch no. 93 (E 7946). This has already  
been shown to the Panamanian Legation  
in Paris, but produced little reaction  
there.

Now please see separate

Wt. 24772/717 17855 10/38 F.O.P.

minute 9/9

J. F. Gable  
(J.F.G.)

3/9

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# MESSAGE.

IN

8

INDEXED

UNCLASSIFIED

From: RAIDER.

092000A/September,

Date: 9.9.47.

Recd: 2126

P/L

To: C. in C. Med.  
Info MERMAID, Admiralty, COMPAL.

## IMPORTANT

My position, course and speed at 2000A is 35 degs. 23 mins. North 20 degs. 24 mins. East 072 degs. 8 knots.

092000A

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D.C.(2)  
M.(8)  
D.S.O.

J.R. 32

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1	1	1	1	1	1

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# MESSAGE.

*p.w.*  
IN 9

E 8087/84 /21

INDEXED

UNCLASSIFIED

101301A/September.

Date. 10.9.47

From. RAIDER

Recd. 1349

P/L

Addressed. C. in C Med.  
Info. MERMAID. Admiralty. Compal.

IMPORTANT.

My position course and speed at 1300A.

36 degs. 04 mins North 23 degs 01 mins East.  
045 degs. 8 knots.

101301A

Advance Copy. D.C. O.D.  
sent 1530

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
D.N.I(5)  
M(10)

IJ  
41

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Reference:

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# MESSAGE.

*p.w.*  
IN

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UNCLASSIFIED

090800A/September

From RAIDER

DATE 9/9/47

RECD 0352

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med.  
info Admiralty, COMPAL

## IMPORTANT

In position course and speed at 0800A is

34 degs. 57 mins. North  
18 degs. 35 mins. East  
079 degs. 8 knots.

090800A

Advance copy sent D.C., O.D.  
at 0955/9th.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O  
M(8)  
D.N.I(5)

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

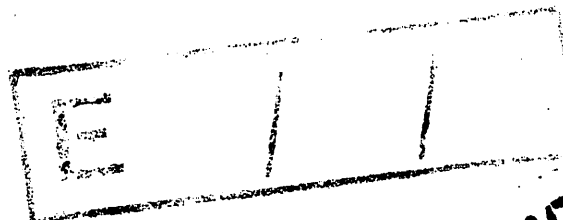
FO 371

61848

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# MESSAGE.

*p.w.*  
IN //



INDEXED

UNCLASSIFIED

From RAIDER

082000A/Sept.

Date 8. 9.47.  
Received 2027

P.I.

Addressed C. in C.Med.  
Info. Admiralty, COMFAL.

IMPORTANT.

My position course and speed at 2000A is 34 degs.  
43 mins. North 16 degs. 47 mins. East 076 degs. 9 knots.

082000A

Advance copy sent D.C.

V.C.N.E.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
M. (10)  
D.N.I. (5)

41/EK

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

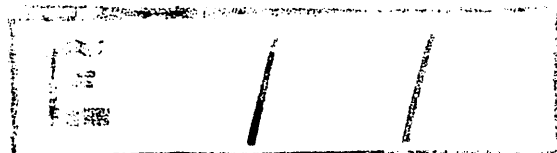
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# MESSAGE.

*P.S. E*  
IN

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INDEXED

UNCLASSIFIED

080210A/September

From ST. BRIDES BAY

DATE 8/9/47

RECD 0300

P/L

RECIRCULATION

Addressee C.in C.Med.,  
info RAIDER, Admiralty, COMPAL, F.C.Gibraltar

IMPORTANT

Position course and speed at 0200A.

34 degs. 39 mins. North  
13 degs. 52 mins. East.  
109 degs.  
8.5 knots.

080210A

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
D.N.I.(5)  
M.(8)

B.A.3

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IN

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UNCLASSIFIED

072025A/September

From ST. BRIDES BAY

DATE 8/9/47

RECD 0041

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med.,  
info RAIDER, Admiralty, COMPAL, F.O. Gibraltar

IMPORTANT

Position course and speed at 2000A.

34 degs. 45 mins. North  
12 degs. 55 mins. East  
105 degs. 8.5 knots.

072025A

Advance copy sent D.C., R.C.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D.C.(2)  
M.(8)

B.A.18

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# MESSAGE.

*p.w. F*  
IN

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UNCLASSIFIED

080605A/September

From ST.BRIDES BAY

DATE 8/9/47

RECD 0811

P/L

Addressed C.in C.Med.  
info RAIDER, Admiralty, COMPAL, F.O. Gibraltar

IMPORTANT

Position course and speed at 0600A

34 degs. 22 mins. North  
14 degs. 29 mins. East  
090 degs. 8.5 knots.

080605A

Advance copy sent D.C.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D.C.(2)  
M.(8)

B.A.L8

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MESSAGE.

IN

15



UNCLASSIFIED

071204/Sept.

From ST. BRIDES BAY

Date 7. 9. 47.  
Received 1246

P.L.

Addressed C. in C-Med.,  
Info. RAIDER, Admiralty, COMPAL, F.O.Gib.

IMPORTANT.

Position course and speed at 1200 35 degs. 34 mins.  
North 11 degs. 57 mins. East. 135 degs. 8.5 knots.

071204A

Advance copies sent D.C., R.C.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
M. (10)  
D.N.I. (5)

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# MESSAGE.

p.w. E, 16  
IN

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UNCLASSIFIED

070206A/September.

From ST. BRIDES BAY.

Date: 7.9.47.

Reed: 0322.

P/L

To: C. in C. Med.  
Info: Admiralty, COMPAL, F.O. Gibraltar,

## IMPORTANT

Position, course and speed at 0200A. 36 degs. 53' North  
11 degs. 21' East. 160 degs. 8.5 knots.

070206A

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
D.N.I.(5)  
M.(4)

DR.  
27

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Reference:

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# MESSAGE.

IN

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UNCLASSIFIED

0700021/801 September.

From: ST. BRIDES BAY.

Date: 7.9.47.

Recd: 0056

P/L

To: C. in C. Mediterranean.  
Info Admiralty, COMPAL, F.O. Gibraltar.

## IMPORTANT

Position course and speed at 0001A.  
37 degs. 09 mins. North  
11 degs. 13 mins. East.  
150 degs.  
1.5 knots.

070002A

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D.C.(2)  
E.(8)

J.R. 24

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# MESSAGE

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UNCLASSIFIED

061803A/September.

From: ST. BRIDES BAY.

Date: 6.9.47.

Recd: 1834

P/L

To: C. in C. Mediterranean.  
Info Admiralty, COMPAL, F.O. Gibraltar.

## IMPORTANT

Position, course and speed at 1800A 37 degs.  
19 mins. North.  
10 degs. 14 mins. East.  
092 degs.  
8.5 knots.

061803A

Advance Copy D.C.  
sent 2035/6

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
D.N.I.(5)  
M.(8)

J.R. 27

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MESSAGE.

E 19  
INDEXED

IN

UNCLASSIFIED

061406/Sept.

From ST. BRIDES BAY

Date 6. 9.47.  
Received 1546

P.L.

Addressed C. in C. Med.,  
Info. Admiralty, COMPAL, F.O.Gib.

IMPORTANT.

Position course and speed at 1400A  
37 degs.23 mins.North 09 degs.31 mins.East  
078 degs.8.5 knots.

061406A

Advance copies sent D.C., O.D.1620/6th.

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
M.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)  
R.C.

EK/5

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# MESSAGE

IN

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UNCLASSIFIED

060610A/September

From ST. BRIDES BAY

DATE 6/9/47

RECD 1038

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med.  
info Admiralty, P.O. Gibraltar, COMPAL

IMPORTANT

My 060215, Speed should read 8.5 knots.

060610A

Advance copy sent D.C., O.D., M.  
D.N.I.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
D.N.I. (5)  
M. (10)

/5

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# SECRET

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IN

6897/84/R

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(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

061011/September.

From: C. in C. Mediterranean. Date: 6.9.47.

Recd: 1250

Inter-Service (Generalex)

To: F.O.L.I.  
Info Admiralty for D.N.I., N.O.i/c Port Said, Greekmil for  
B.C.I.S., G.O.C. Malta, B.M.A. Tripolitania Tripdist  
Cyrendist.

My 050857 September. Position at 0200A today  
Saturday was 30 miles Northwest of Bone steering 090  
degs. 7.5 knots.

061011

NORTHLANDS.

1st Lord.  
1st S.L.(3)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.  
Naval Secretary  
Secretary  
U.S.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
M.(10)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D. of P.(2)  
D. of P.(Q)(2)  
C.N.I.(2)  
R.C.

J.R.

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Paris

28th August 1947.

3 SEP 1954

Dear John,

I write to place on record the information which I gave you over the telephone today concerning the "Northlands". On receipt on the 18th August of Despatch No. 29 of the 11th August from His Majesty's Consul, Bordeaux informing us that his Panamanian colleague had not so far received any request from the Panamanian Legation here for a report about the "Northlands" which would enable them to recommend their government to withdraw the vessel's Panamanian registration, I again called on the Panamanian First Secretary Mr. Ocana to ask the reason why.

Mr. Ocana stated that just after his previous conversation with me when he had promised to send instructions to Bordeaux he had been given to understand by the Consular Section of the Legation that both the "Paducah" and the "Northlands" had sailed. Hence he had done nothing and claimed that he had been unable to get in touch with me to let me know.

At this stage of our conversation we were joined by the Panamanian Minister, Mr. Porras to whom, in view of my waning confidence in Mr. Ocana, I recounted the story of the "Northlands" and the "Paducah" from the beginning. The Minister said that he considered it a splendid idea to ask the Panamanian Consul in Bordeaux to make investigations on the spot and promised a telegram giving him the necessary instructions would be sent immediately. I learnt later that this was done. Both Mr. Porras and Mr. Ocana were extremely friendly and I think that the slip on the part of Mr. Ocana probably resulted from incompetence rather than from lack of good will.

His Majesty's Consul, Bordeaux reported by telegram dated 25th August that his Panamanian colleague had promised to report to his Legation as early as possible. At his request the Panamanian Consul demanded, and was promised on the 17th August, a certified inventory of the equipment and provisions on the ship. The Panamanian Consul had not by the 25th August received the inventory in spite of a renewed demand and he therefore suspected that the ship hoped to sail without being obliged to conform with his request. He informed His Majesty's Consul that he was about to telegraph to the French authorities at Bayonne requesting them not to let the ship sail without his consent. He added that he would only give his consent if he received the inventory and found it satisfactory.

You saw from His Majesty's Consul's telegram No. 24 to us of the 26th August that the French authorities told the Panamanian Consul that they could not detain the ship as he had requested. On the 27th August I asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to cause instructions to be sent to the local French authorities

J.G.S.Beith, Esq.,  
Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
LONDON. S.W. 1.

at/

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at Bayonne to comply with the Panamanian Consul's request. The Ministry replied that they could do so only if they received a request from the Panamanian Legation. I then asked Mr. Ocana for an approach to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be sent. He undertook to do so and said that he would at the same time send instructions to the Panamanian Consul at Bordeaux to do everything possible to detain the ship until he had been able to report on his suspicions and until the Panamanian Government had been able to decide whether, on the strength of that report, to withdraw registration. Mr. Ocana failed however to get in touch with the competent official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was about to try again at my request this morning when he received two telegrams from the Panamanian Consul at Bordeaux.

The first of these telegrams dated 26th August stated that the Consul suspected the vessel of participating in the illegal immigration traffic and that he was continuing his investigations. The second one dated 27th August reported that he had now received a statement from the Master of the ship which satisfied him that his suspicions had been unfounded and that the ship did not intend to participate in the traffic.

I expressed my disappointment at this news and Mr. Ocana then by way of a consolation prize said that if like the "Paducah", the "Northlands" left Bayonne declaring her intention to go to a given port and then proceeded to a different one, the Panamanian Legation here would immediately telegraph to their representative in the country to which the vessel had actually proceeded, pointing out that this appeared suspicious and requesting him to detain the vessel and report to the Panamanian Government.

I do not know what results this might yield but think that we might take the same action in relation to the "Paducah", and on hearing at which port the "Paducah" next calls I shall therefore get in touch with Mr. Ocana once more.

In case the vessel does, as suggested in Bordeaux telegram No. 58 to you of August 27th, proceed to Genoa, I am sending a copy of this letter to Williams at Rome. I am also sending a copy to Nairn at Bordeaux and Kay at Marseilles.

Yours ever,

Frederic A. Crossley

G. A. Crossley.

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INDEXED

8087 84 11

f.w

[REDACTED]

SECRET

IN 24

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(\*NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad :  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

131013R/Sept.

From B.N.A. Ankara at Istanbul Date 13. 9.47.  
Received 1103

NAVAL SHORE CODE O.T.P.

Addressed C. in C.Med.,  
Info. Admiralty, Cdre. Palestine Greek Mill, H.B.N.M.  
S.O.(I) L.E.M.  
IMPORTANT.

Panamanian s.s. NORTHLAND number 203 repeat 203  
entered Bosphorus 0700 13th in transit.

2. Declares destination Constanza.
3. Admiralty please pass to all.

131013R

Advance copies sent M., D.C., D.N.I., O.D.

Passing action being taken by War Reg.

1st.Lord.  
1st.S.L.(3)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.  
Naval Secretary  
Secretary  
U.S.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
M.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D.of F.(2)  
D.of F.(6)  
C.N.I.(2)

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# RESTRICTED.

25 IN

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

8087 84 21

INDEXED

121001B/September

DATE. 12.9.47.

RECD. 1023

FROM. MERMAID.

GENERALEX

TO. C. in C. Med.  
INFO. Admiralty. F.O.D. Med. Compal. H.B.N.M. (G).

## IMMEDIATE

Snip entered Dardanelles at 1000B. Intend to remain until 1400 then proceed to Alexandroupolis.

2. Intend sailing for Salonika at 1600B/13  
expected time of arrival 1000B/14.

3. H.B.N.M. (G) is requested to inform Consulate Salonika of expected time of arrival.

121001B

Advance copy to O.D., D.C.,  
D.N.I. M. at 1110/12.

1st Lord  
1st S.L. (3)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.  
Naval Secretary  
Secretary  
U.S.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
M. (8)  
D.N.I. (5)  
D. of P. (2)  
D. of P. (Q)  
C.N.I. (2)  
PFB/3

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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**IN**

26

8087 84 31

120607B/Sept.

Date 12. 9.47.  
Received 0611

P. L.

Addressed C. in C. Med.,  
Info. Admiralty, COMPAL, H.B.N.M.(G).  
IMPORTANT.

IMPORTANT.  
My position course and speed at 0600B. 39 degs.38 mins.  
North 25 degs.50 mins.East 015. 8.

120607B

Advance copies sent D.C., R.C.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
M. (10)  
D.N.I. (5)

41/RK

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1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**

INDEXED  
**MESSAGE.**

f.w.  
**IN** 27

UNCLASSIFIED

From MERMAID.

111803B/September.

Date: 11.9.47.

Recd: 1807.

P/L

To: C. in C. Med.  
Info: HBNO Greece, COMPAL, Admiralty.

IMPORTANT

My position, course and speed at 1800B. 38 degs.  
19' North 25 degs. 13' East. 060. 5.5.

111803B

Advance copy sent D.C., R.C.  
at 1853/11

V.C.N.S.  
D.C. (2)  
O.D. (8)  
D.N.I. (5)  
M. (8)  
D.S.O.  
R.C.

DR.  
27

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2			

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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# MESSAGE.

*p.w.*  
IN 28

8087/84 /P1

UNCLASSIFIED

110604B/September

From MERMAID

DATE 11/9/47

RECD 0732

P/L

Addressed C.in C.Med.  
info Admiralty, H.B.N.M.(G), COMPAL

## IMPORTANT

My position course and speed at 0600B.

37 degs. 38 mins. North  
24 degs. 12 mins. East  
035  
7.5

110604B

Advance copy sent D.C., R.C.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
L.C.(2)  
M.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)

B.A.3

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

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# MESSAGE.

h.w.  
E  
IN  
29

UNCLASSIFIED

100800A/September

DATE. 10.9.47.

FROM. RAIDER.

RECD. 0929

P/L

TO. C. in C. Med.  
INFO. MERMAID. Admiralty. Compal.

My position course and speed at 0800A  
35 degs. 44 mins. north 22 degs. 21 mins. east  
075 degs. 8 knots.

100800A

Advance copy O.D. D.C.

Sent at 1040/10

V.C.N.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
D.N.I. (5)  
M. (10)

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

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# MESSAGE.

*f.w. E*  
IN 29A

UNCLASSIFIED

1014454/September.

Date. 10.9.47

From. RAIDER.

Recd. 1535

P/L

Addressed. C. in C Med.

Info. MERMAID. Admiralty. Compal. &

IMPORTANT.

My position course and speed at 1445h.

36 degs 14 mins North, 23 degs 09 mins East.  
025 degs. 8 knots.

101445h.

Advance Copy. D.C. O.D.  
sent 1630.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.N.I(5)  
M(10)  
D.C.(2)

1J

56

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1			2	

Reference:

FO

371

61848

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# RESTRICTED.

E IN 30

**WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.**

101756B/September

FROM MERMAID

DATE 10/9/47

RECD 2000

SECRET

Addressed C.in C.Med.,  
info Admiralty, COMDAL, H.B.N.M.(Greece), F.O.D.Med.,  
F.O.(Air) Med. RAIDER

IMMEDIATE

Your 091234A (not to Admiralty). Have taken over shadowing NORTHLAND in position 36 degs. 27 mins. North 23 degs. 19 mins. East, course 030 speed 8 knots.

2. Am keeping constant watch on M broadcast.

101756B

Advance copy sent D.C., R.C.

Note:- Previously received undecypherable

1st Lord  
1st S.L.(3)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.  
Naval Secretary  
Secretary  
U.S.S.  
D.C.(2)  
M.(8)  
D.H.I.(5)  
D.of P.(2)  
D.of P.(2)  
C.N.I.(2)  
D.S.D.(2)  
H.W.R.(2)  
O.I.C. W/T Room  
N.I.D.10 (2)  
O.D.(8)

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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328

1947

E

PALESTINE

E 8125

3 SEP

Registry Number } E8125/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

M. Holman  
Bucharest

919

2 Sept

3

S S Podurak  
Refer Sofia tel 100 (E 7998/84/31)  
Would be grateful to know whether  
Podurak embarks passengers at Bolice  
before going to Varna. Is confirmation  
of his alleged call at Bolice can be  
obtained.

ADDRESSED SOFIA . 80

Last Paper.

8088

(Minutes.)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/1. G. I. Kist  
Left with

(Action completed.)

TR 4/9

(Index.)

7/15/48

Next Paper.

8129

32008 F.O.P.

1
2
3
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6

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Reference: FO 371 / 61848

E 8125

3 SEP 1947

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

Cypher/OTP

FROM BUCHAREST TO SOFIA

Mr. Holman  
No. 80

2nd September, 1947.

D. 8.39 a.m. 2nd September, 1947

R. 12.55 p.m. 2nd September, 1947

Repeated to Foreign Office No. 919  
Angora

0 0 0 0

RESTRICTED

Your telegram No. 100.

I should be grateful to know whether s.s. Paducah  
embarks passengers at Balcic before going to Varna.

2. No confirmation of her alleged call at Balcic  
can be obtained here.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angora as my  
telegram No. 17.

[Repeated to Angora].



1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371** / 61848

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E 8129

35

CYPHER/OTP

3 SEP 1  
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett.  
No. 1,109.

D: 6.37 p.m. 2nd September, 1947.

2nd September, 1947.

R: 10.15 p.m. 2nd September, 1947.

Repeated to: Bucharest,  
Angora,  
B.M.E.O. Cairo,  
Jerusalem.

@@@ @@@ @@@

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No. 1,098.

Acting Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs stated to-day that:

(1) No persons would be allowed to embark on or  
disembark from "Paducah" at a Bulgarian port.

(2) Bulgarian Government did not feel they had  
the right under international law to refuse fuel to  
the "Paducah".

(3) Vessel had been told to leave Varna as soon as  
possible.

2. Whether Paducah has already been fuelled and has  
left Varna remains uncertain but Commander Cowgill is at  
Varna to-day and when he returns to Sofia tomorrow I  
will telegraph again.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram  
No. 16.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office  
for repetition to Jerusalem.]



1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry  
No. E

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

SOFA

Telegram.

No. 1195

(Date) Sept 3

Repeat to:—

Angola No 734

Bucharest No 890

Panama No 93

Paris (samy) No 240

En Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:—

I. I. P.

OUT FILE

F. O., 36

1947

Despatched

11.30 A.M.

Confidential

Sofia

Telegram no. 1109 [of  
2nd September: Jewish illegal  
immigration] (not to Paris and Panama).

H.N. Embassy Paris report  
that the Panamanian Legation  
there have telegraphed to  
your ~~American~~ U.S. colleague, who  
represents Panamanian interests  
in Bulgaria, asking him to  
inspect "PAPOCAH" and report  
whether evidence exists to  
confirm our suspicions of her  
intention to engage in the  
carrying Jewish illegal immigrants  
to Palestine.

2. Please give him  
as much information as possible  
and urge him to recommend  
/withdrawal

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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E

Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No: 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO SOFIA

No: 1175

3rd September 1947

D. 11.35.a.m. 4th September 1947

Repeated to Angora No: 754  
 Bucharest No: 890  
 Panama No: 93  
 Paris Embassy No: 1740 Saving

X:X:X:

CONFIDENTIAL

Sofia telegram No: 1109 [of 2nd September: Jewish illegal immigration] (not to Paris and Panama).

His Majesty's Embassy Paris report that the Panamanian Legation there have telegraphed to your United States colleague, who represents Panamanian interests in Bulgaria, asking him to inspect "Paducah" and report whether evidence exists to confirm our suspicions of her intention to carry Jewish illegal immigrants to Palestine.

2. Please give him as much information as possible and urge him to recommend withdrawal of Panamanian registration.

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&amp;S.



withdrawal of Panamanian  
registration.

*[Signature]*  
3/9

36A

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

1	2	3	4	5	6

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No: 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO SOFIA

No: 1175

3rd September 1947

D. 11.35.a.m. 4th September  
1947

Repeated to Angora No: 754  
Bucharest No: 890  
Panama No: 93  
Paris Embassy No: 1740 Saving

X:X:X:

CONFIDENTIAL

Sofia telegram No: 1109 [of 2nd September:  
Jewish illegal immigration] (not to Paris and Panama).

His Majesty's Embassy Paris report that the Panamanian Legation there have telegraphed to your United States colleague, who represents Panamanian interests in Bulgaria, asking him to inspect "Paducah" and report whether evidence exists to confirm our suspicions of her intention to carry Jewish illegal immigrants to Palestine.

2. Please give him as much information as possible and urge him to recommend withdrawal of Panamanian registration.

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Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**

E 8139

# PALESTINE

Registry Number **E8139/84/31**

FROM Colonial Office  
(communicated)

No. 76021/62

*Dated* 1.9.47.

Received } 4.9.47.  
in Registry }

S.S. "Colony Trader" Transmits copy of letter from Colonial Office to Mr Rennie regarding the crew of the Colony Trader who refused to sail by the Ascania. Encloses copies of the tels. exchanged with the Governor of Gibraltar which show that H.M.G. intend to deprt the men if they will not leave of their own free will. Also encloses copy of the claim which was addressed by the Intermondale Trading Company to Mr Rennie's dept. for alleged financial loss incurred by the ship's detention. Wishes to know whether Mr Cable considers that Mr Pickrell should be informed through the Embassy that his letter has been passed to the Governor Of Gibraltar for reply.

## Last Paper

K-8729

## References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(How disposed of)

7/1/50 6/10/50 dancing  
Safe. B

8) 11/1/50 c.o.  
Mr. Rennie. 11/1/50.  
(without one) Safe 9

(Action completed)

(Index)

## Next Paper

8161

(Minutes.)

Letter to Washington

4/9

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### Reference:

27

61848

Mr. Cable

Enter - E

Eastern Dept.

Foreign Office

8139

39

NDP

With the compliments of

— the Under Secretary of State

for the Colonies.

Colonial Office  
reference 76021/62.

Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
1st Sept. 1947.

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Reference:

FO

371

61848



Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

August, 1947.

76021/62/47

Dear Rennie,

Please refer to your letter of 21st August concerning the crew of the "Colony Trader" who refused to sail by the "Ascania".

2. I enclose copies of the saving telegrams exchanged with Governor, Gibraltar, on this subject and you will see that we intend to consider deporting the men if they do not leave of their own free will. We hope that the threat of deportation added to the ennui of their sojourn in Gibraltar will persuade them to go.

3. As regards the claim, a copy of which I enclose, addressed by the Intermondale Trading Company against your Department for alleged financial loss incurred by the ship's detention, you will note that no attention need be paid to it. I should be grateful if Cable, to whom I am sending a copy of this letter and ~~an~~ enclosures, would consider whether Pickrell should be informed, through the Embassy, that his letter has been passed to the Governor, Gibraltar for reply.

Yours sincerely,

F.C. RENNIE, ESQ.

1 2 3 4 5 6

1 2

Reference: **FO 371** / 61848

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No. 378 Saving.

2. Enclosed, for your information, is a copy of a letter addressed to the Ministry of Shipping by the legal representative of the Intermondale Trading Company which claims to own the cargo of scrap tyres on the ship and to have incurred financial loss owing to the detention of the ship in Gibraltar. As the Company is attempting to make a claim against His Majesty's Government for this alleged loss, it would be appreciated if you would cause the owner's solicitors in Gibraltar to be informed that no such claim can be entertained since the ship was detained under powers conferred by law and that in any event either the tyres on board could have been removed by the Intermondale

871878

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41A

Trading Company or others delivered in their place. Presumably owners solicitors will communicate with the Trading Company's legal representative.

SECR.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	2	1

Reference:

FO

371

61848

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COPY

EUGENE R. PICKRELL  
COUNSELOR AT LAW  
10 EAST 40th STREET  
NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

42

29th July, 1947.

Ministry of Shipping,  
British Government,  
London, England.

Gentlemen,

A client of mine, the Intermondale Trading Company, a corporation organised under and by virtue of the laws of the Government of Switzerland, with principal offices in the City of Geneva, Switzerland, shipped in the S.S. "Colony Trader", 6,860 scrap (used and worn) rubber tires, from Jacksonville, Florida to Genoa, Italy.

The S.S. "Colony Trader" sailed from Jacksonville, Florida on 27th April, 1947, and put into the port of Gibraltar on 27th May, 1947, with the cargo of 6,860 scrap (used and worn) rubber tires. I further understand the S.S. "Colony Trader" with this cargo of 6,860 scrap (used and worn) rubber tires, was seized by the Governor of Gibraltar on 27th May, 1947, under the allegation that the S.S. "Colony Trader", after it unloaded this cargo of 6,860 scrap (used and worn) rubber tires at Genoa, Italy, would take on Jewish refugees and attempt to run the British blockade of Palestine.

My/

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference:

FO

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61848

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42A

My client paid eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) for this cargo of 6,860 scrap (used and worn) rubber tires, and also paid thirty thousand, three hundred forty-three dollars (\$30,343.00) for the freight. These 6,860 scrap (used and worn) rubber tires weighed 380 tons, and was the first delivery under contract of 10,000 tons of scrap (used and worn) rubber tires to be delivered to a French corporation.

In view of this seizure, and my client's inability to deliver the 6,860 scrap (used and worn) rubber tires to Genoa, Italy, this contract with the French concern has been cancelled. My client has lost in profit on this 10,000 ton contract, two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00). My client has also expended thirty eight thousand, three hundred forty-three dollars (\$38,343.00) for this cargo and the freight thereon, and hereby makes claim from the Government of Great Britain for two hundred and thirty eight thousand, three hundred forty-three dollars (\$238,343.00), due to this seizure.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) EUGENE R. PICKRELL.  
Attorney for Intermondale Trading  
Company.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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COPY

SAVING

To: Secretary of State for the Colonies No.21 Secret.

Repeated High Commissioner Palestine Unnumbered.

Date: 19th August, 1947.

Colony Trader. As stated in my telegram No.225 nine other members of crew refused to sail by Ascania. One has since left of his own accord and balance of eight are still being accommodated ashore. Reason given for refusal is that reports have been received that two other ships belonging to same owner have been arrested for debt and that owner Haniotis has absconded. Crew consider that so long as they remain in Gibraltar they at least have the ship as security for their pay. Master of ship is considering trying to raise loan of £3,500 against a Bottomry Bond to meet ship's expenses including crew's wages and states he has heard nothing from owners for a considerable time despite frantic appeals for funds. Prospect of raising such a loan are not bright.

2. Meanwhile subsistence of crew ashore is costing His Majesty's Government approximately £35 per week. I am advised that crew could be removed from Gibraltar as "undesirable" under Section 18 of the Aliens and Strangers Ordinance (Cap.5), but although I have very little sympathy with them I appreciate their desire to remain near the ship. Moreover if there is any likelihood of ship leaving Gibraltar in the near future the crew may also

be/

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Reference:

FO 371

61848

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43A

be prepared to leave of their own free will, and in this connection I would refer to your secret reply Saving No.85 of 11th August, the contents of which have been communicated to owners' solicitors. It is possible also that balance of crew may melt away in due course for various reasons and perhaps best course is to make it known to them that they cannot be permitted to remain in Gibraltar indefinitely and that we shall be bound to consider their removal under Aliens and Strangers' Ordinance unless they leave of their own free will. It has already been made clear to them that they can expect no assistance from this Government regarding the balance of pay they allege is due to them. I should be grateful for your advice on attitude to be adopted towards balance of crew.

Governor.

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Reference:

FO 371

61848

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry  
No. E8139/84/31 J.E.C.

Draft.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

To  
Washington & Lancery  
from  
Eastern Dept

Copy to:  
Mr. Higham (C.O.)  
Mr. Reame (Min. of War)  
(without enclosure)

OUT FILE

+ 2

44  
8 Sept

Dear Lancery,

We enclose a copy  
of a letter addressed to the  
"Ministry of Shipping" (sic) by  
a certain Eugene R. Pickrell  
of New York, complaining of  
the action taken by the  
Governor of Gibraltar to  
detain the S.S. "Colony Trader"  
~~on the grounds~~ that  
on suspicion of her complicity  
in the Jewish illegal immigration  
traffic to Palestine.

2. We should be grateful  
if you would inform the  
writer that his letter has been  
passed to the Governor of  
Gibraltar

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

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Lybriation for reply.

Yours ever  
Eastern Dept.

4/9

44A

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**



45  
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

8th September, 1947.

(E. 8139/84/31).

RESTRICTED

Dear Chancery,

We enclose a copy of a letter addressed to the "Ministry of Shipping" (sic) by a certain Eugene R. Pickrell of New York, complaining of the action taken by the Governor of Gibraltar to detain the s.s. "Colony Trader" on suspicion of her complicity in the Jewish illegal immigration traffic to Palestine.

2. We should be grateful if you would inform the writer that his letter has been passed to the Governor of Gibraltar for reply.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Washington.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	2	2	2

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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331  
1947

E

46  
E 8161

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E8161/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr Roberts

No. Moscow

1968

Dated 1.9.47.

Received in Registry } 4.9.47.

S. S. Paducah

Repeated to Montevideo Sofia and Bucharest. Refers to F.O. TEL. no 136 to Montevideo (E7771). The facts of the case have been put to the Uruguayan Charge d'Affaires who is anxious to cooperate and has telegraphed a request to his Govt. for assurances that the visas are not valid. He has not been informed of the earlier approach to Vyshinski and of the latter's reply.

Last Paper.

E8139

(Minutes.)

given I.I.P. distribution

now see E8162

*[Signature]*  
4/9

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Reptd to  
Montevideo  
Sofia  
Bucharest  
copied to MES.

(Action completed.)

*[Signature]*  
9/10/48

(Index.)

*[Signature]*  
9/10/48

Next Paper.

E8162

32003 F.O.P.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61848

Green 47

SFP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

V V V

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

D. 5.45 p.m. 1st September 1947.  
R. 8.30 p.m. 1st September 1947.

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reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

4 SEP 1947

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



E 8162

# 1947

PALM

Registry } E8162/84/31  
Number }

**TELEGRAM FROM**

Mr Roberts

№ **MOSCOW**

1980

Dated **3.9.47.**

Received 4.9.47.

Received  
in Registry

S.S. "Paducah"

Repeated to Montevideo, Bucharest and Sofia. Refers to Moscow tel. no 1968(E8161). The Uruguayan Ch. d'AFF. has said that his govt. have stated that no authority has been ~~granted~~ ~~granted~~ for issuing these visas and that if any local representative had done so ~~ultra~~ ~~ultra~~ ~~he~~ he had acted ultra vires thus nullifying the validity of the visas. He appeared ready to pass this information to the Soviet Govt. if it became necessary. Presumes that this is not wished at present.

**Last Paper.**

FS161

## References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Sept 10  
Hartford  
Buchanan

SDP

mes

Ref. ~~Udareva~~ 1823

Rtd. Bachant 901

Doyle 1181  
St. James 1164

✓ 998 100-8

(Action completed.) (Index.)

P. L. M. / J. M. S.

✓ 6/69/9

Next Paper.

LSA 63

(Minutes.)

Given I. I. P. distribution.

As the Bulgarian Govt. have specifically promised (E8129) not to allow anyone to embark on the "PADUCAH", it seems unnecessary to raise the question of false Uruguayan visas so long as the "PADUCAH" remains at a Bulgarian port. On the other hand, it might be useful to get the Uruguayan Chargé d'Affaires to communicate his Govt's reply to the Russians, in case this ship should later move to a Roumanian or Russian port. In any case, we have nothing to lose by so doing. We could, at the same time, correct our previous statement about the ship's whereabouts.

0 We might also ask Sofia whether they consider it would be useful to ask the Soviet Govt. to support our request to the Bulgarian Govt. that fuel should be denied to the "PADUCAH".

I submit draft Telegrams accordingly

32003 F.O.P.

N. Dept. <sup>MD</sup> aln

13 Sept-4.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
J. E. CABLE  
4/9

### Reference:

FO  
371

61848

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4.9.9.P. Sept. 8

1	2	3	4	5	6
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**Reference:**

FO 371 / 61848

Cypher/OTP

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

E 8162

49

Mr. Roberts

No. 1980

D. 6.41 p.m. 3rd September, 1947

3rd September, 1947 R. 7.10 p.m. 3rd September, 1947

Repeated to Montevideo  
Bucharest  
Sofia

8 8 8 8 8

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No. 1968 and Sofia telegram to you  
No. 1098.

Illegal Jewish Immigrants.

The Uruguayan Chargé d'Affaires has informed me that his Government have stated that no authority has been granted for issuing these visas and that if any local representative of Uruguay had done so he had acted ultra vires, thus nullifying the validity of the visas.

2. The Uruguayan Chargé d'Affaires appeared ready to pass this information to the Soviet Government should this become necessary. Under present circumstances, however, I presume you do not wish me to approach Vyshinski again but provided you see no objection I would, as a matter of courtesy, like to correct my previous statement of the ship's whereabouts by drawing on information in Sofia telegram under reference.

Foreign Office pass to Montevideo, Bucharest and Sofia as my telegrams Nos. 1, 28 and 30 respectively.

[Repeated to Montevideo, Bucharest and Sofia  
and copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

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Reference: FO 371 / 61848

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3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&S.



51  
E8162/84/31  
Confidential  
Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO MOSCOW

No. ~~1023~~ 2935

4th September, 1947. D. 9.00 p.m. 6th September, 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest No. 901  
Sofia No. 1185  
Montevideo No. 146

F F F F

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 1980 [of 3rd September: Jewish  
illegal immigration]

While Bulgarian Government have already promised  
(Sofia telegram No. 1109) not to allow anyone to  
embark on "Paducah", the ship may move to a Roumanian  
or Russian port. It would, therefore, be useful for  
us to be able to refer to Uruguayan Government's  
assurance about visas in any future representations  
to Soviet Government. Please therefore ask  
Uruguayan Chargé d'Affaires to state position officially  
to Soviet Government.

2. I agree that you should correct your previous  
statement to Soviet Government in the light of latest  
information from Sofia.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&amp;S.

53  
No. E 8162/84/31.

OUT FILE

Confidential.

Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO SOFIA.

No. 1184.

D. 12.10 a.m. 5th September 1947.  
4th September 1947.

Repeated to: Moscow No.2885.

W:W:W:W:W

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegrams Nos.1109 and 1118 [of 2nd  
and 3rd September: Jewish illegal immigration].

Do you consider that it would be useful to  
ask Soviet Government to support our request to  
Bulgarian Government to deny fuel to "Paducah"?

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

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Reference:  
**FO 371 / 61848**



<div style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">333</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">1947</div>	<div style="text-align: center; font-size: 48px; font-weight: bold;">E</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PALEST</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">E 8163</div> <div style="font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">54</div> </div>
<div style="font-size: 12px;">Registry Number</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">E8163/84/31</div> <div style="font-weight: bold; margin-top: 5px;">TELEGRAM FROM</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">Mr Sterndale Bennett</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">Sofia</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">No. 1118</div> <div style="font-size: 12px;">Dated</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">3.9.47.</div> <div style="font-size: 12px;">Received in Registry</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">4.9.47.</div>	<div style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">S.S. "Paducah"</div> <div style="font-size: 10px;">Repeated to Bucharest, Angora, B.M.E.O., Jerusalem and Moscow. Refers to Sofia tel. no 1109 (E8129). Gives gist of Commander Cowgill's report on the movements of the Paducah. He believes that she is carrying no passengers.</div>	
<div style="font-weight: bold;">Last Paper.</div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">E8162</div>	<div style="font-size: 10px; text-align: center;">(Minutes.)</div> <div style="font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">Given I.I.P. distribution</div> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">4/9</div>	
<div style="font-weight: bold;">References.</div>	<div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">In P.P. Sofia tel N.T.O.O. / 3rd Sept</div>	
<div style="font-size: 10px; text-align: center;">(Print.)</div>	<div style="font-size: 10px; text-align: center;">(How disposed of.)</div>	
<div style="font-size: 10px;">(Action completed.)</div> <div style="font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">5/11/47</div>	<div style="font-size: 10px;">(Index.)</div> <div style="font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">14/8/1952</div>	<div style="font-weight: bold;">Next Paper.</div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">8166</div>

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

50

11P

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

No. 1118

D. 5.05 p.m. September 3rd, 1947.

R. 7.35 p.m. September 3rd. 1947.

Angora

British Middle East Office Cairo

# Jerusalem

**MOSCOW**

5555

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Bucharest telegram No. 80 to me and my telegram  
No. 1109.

"Paducah".

Commander Cowgill saw vessel alongside at Varna on September 2nd where she still was at 19.30 Sofia time.

2. The name and port of registry was still "Paducah of Panama" on the stern but the ship was not flying the Panamanian flag. She carried notice in English and Spanish on each quarter "Keep clear of the twin screws". Draft marks and loading marks were invisible but the ship appeared moderately light though the lower deck scuttles were only about 4½ feet above the waterline. Wooden structures resembling tiers of bunks were seen through an open loading port and through open main deck and lower deck scuttles. Excessive number of new or freshly painted tall black ventilators were noticed; at least eight in the rear third of ship. No signs of activity or of stores etc. waiting to be embarked. Eight to ten men believed to be crew seen idling on the upper deck some talking American and using American mannerisms. The ship did not appear to have steam and was not prepared for sea.

3. Commander Cowgill is sure that no appreciable number of passengers were on board and does not think she had any at all; and I am prepared to believe from what Bulgarians stated that she [grp. undec. ?had already] called at Balac but did not embark anyone there and will not embark anyone at Varna.

4. Please repeat to Admiralty.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and Moscow  
as my telegrams Nos. 17 and 108 respectively.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem and to Admiralty]

[Repeated to Moscow]

1 2 3 4 5 6  
 1 2  
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E

E 8166

56

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E8166/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM  
Mr VerekerNo. Montevideo  
250

Dated 3.9.47.

Received in Registry } 4.9.47.

S.S. "Paducah"

Refers to F.O. tel. no 136(E7771) As a result of urgent representations made to the Uruguayan Govt. on August 28th Minister for Foreign Affairs telegraphed to Honorary Consul Bucharest enquiring whether visas had been given and if so what number. No reply having been received he again telegraphed on Sept. 1st demanding details and threatening disciplinary action. They are asking the Roumanian Minister in Argentina to ~~instruct~~ telegraph his Govt. asking for information. \*Moscow has also been informed that the Uruguayan Govt. has authorised no such visas and if already granted are invalid.

Last Paper.

E8163

(Minutes.)

1p - dep. 3/9

Given I.I.P. distribution

I think this telegram strengthens the case for the action proposed on E 8162

*[Signature]*  
(Cable)

JB sept 4 4/9

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Replied to  
Moscow  
Bucharest

8) I.I.P. Sept-5.

(Action completed)

*[Signature]*  
4/9

(Index)

*[Signature]*  
4/9

Next Paper.

8174

32003 F.O.P.

1
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4
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6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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E 8168

57

CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM MONTEVIDEO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Vereker.  
No. 250.

D: 5.45 p.m. 3rd September, 1947.

3rd September, 1947. R: 11.30 p.m. 3rd September, 1947.

000 000 000

IMPORTANT

Your telegram No. 136.

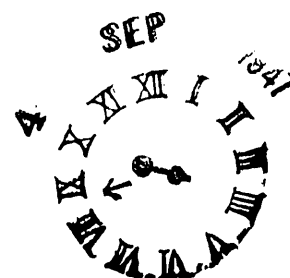
Illegal immigrants in s.s. Paducah.

As a result of urgent representations made to Uruguayan Government on August 28th, Minister for Foreign Affairs telegraphed on August 29th to honorary Uruguay Consul, Bucharest (whose exact status appears to be indefinite) enquiring whether visas had been given and if so in what number. No reply having been received, the Ministry again telegraphed on September 1st demanding details and threatening disciplinary action. Moreover Uruguayan Ambassador Buenos Aires has been instructed urgently to request Roumanian Minister in Argentina to telegraph his Government asking for information regarding alleged action by Uruguayan Consul.

2. Under-Secretary of State tells me that Uruguayan Charge d'Affaires, Moscow has also been informed that no such visas have been authorised by Uruguayan Government and if already granted by Uruguayan Consul concerned are to be regarded as invalid.

3. Please pass to Moscow and Bucharest.

[Repeated to Moscow and Bucharest].



1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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37 r

1947

E

58

E 8174

PALESTINE

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8174/84/31

Embassy

Paris

2 Sept

5 -

S.S. 'Poduch'

W.S.  
 Encloses copy of manifest of 'Poduch'  
 copy of letter from G.A. Crossley, Paris  
 to M. E. Orana Paramanian Legation,  
 re supervision of movement of  
 'Poduch' and 'Northlands'.

Last Paper

8166

(Minutes.)

5/9

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action  
completed)

9/8/48

(Index)

9/8/48

Next Paper

8176

32538

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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BRITISH EMBASSY,  
PARIS.

2nd September, 1947.

*With the Compliments  
of His Majesty's Embassy.*

J.E. Cable, Esq.,  
Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
S.W.1.

E 8174

1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

Reference:

FO

371

61848

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60

Paris.

2nd September, 1947.

Further to our recent conversations about the Paducah and the Northlands. I think you will be interested to see the enclosed copy of the manifest of the Paducah.

You will notice the tremendous quantities of food she is carrying, and particularly the number of mess kits, canteens and cups. This adds to our already very strong reasons for believing that the vessel intends to embark a number of passengers entirely out of proportion to her size.

I take this opportunity of placing on record our telephone conversation of yesterday, when I informed you that the Paducah was now in the port of Varna in Bulgaria. When you informed me that your Consul in Bordeaux had finally decided that his suspicions of the Northlands were unfounded you had been good enough to assure me that if this vessel left Bayonne declaring her intention to go to one port, but then in fact proceeded to another port, you would telegraph to the Panamanian Legation in the country to which the vessel actually had proceeded, pointing out that this was an act of a suspicious character, and requesting that the vessel be detained pending a report to your government by the local Panamanian representatives as to the future intentions of the ship. This would give your government a further opportunity of considering whether the vessel's Panamanian registration should be withdrawn. Since the Paducah, having cleared Bayonne for Leghorn has now, as stated above, proceeded to Varna instead, you undertook to get in touch with the Panamanian Diplomatic or Consular representatives in Bulgaria, requesting them to take this action in connection with this vessel.

I also informed you that we would be grateful to learn from you for what reasons the Panamanian Consul at Bordeaux finally decided against his earlier impressions, that our suspicion of the Northlands was unfounded. Obviously we do not wish to waste time and energy in the watching of a vessel if there are good reasons to suggest that she is not suspect. At the same time the evidence which we have so far accumulated against the Northlands is so overwhelming that we cannot at the present time envisage any relaxation of our supervision of the ship's movements. I was, therefore, very glad to have your undertaking to let me know on what grounds your Consul's final decision was founded.

G.A. Crossley.

Monsieur E. Ocana,  
First Secretary,  
Panamanian Legation,  
1bis, Avenue Koch,  
Paris.

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

**Reference:**

FO 371 / 61848

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Ship's Manifest

Whole milk powder  
Skimmed milk powder  
Barley  
Noodles  
Spaghetti  
Kashe  
Rice  
Salt  
Toilet tissue  
S.C. milk  
Egg powder  
Hersey chocolate  
Bread biscuit  
Canned peas  
    "    beans  
    "    beet  
    "    carrots  
    "    beans  
Prunes (bottled)  
Canned veg-all  
    "    peaches  
    "    beans  
    "    apricots  
    "    blended juices  
Flam jelly  
Guava jelly  
Orange marmalade  
Fruit compote  
Med peaches  
Raisins  
Horse mackerel  
Premium crackers  
Wave soap  
Mess kits  
Canteens and cups  
Sanitary napkins  
Paper bags  
Forks and spoons

1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**

396

E

E 8176

194 15-47

PALESTINE

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8176/84/31

Darrell Wilson  
Algiers

98.

28 Aug  
5 Sept

P.S. 'Padana L.'

Refers Algiers despatch 93 (E 7946/84/31) <sup>W.S.</sup>  
How enclosed print of photograph  
of ship.

Last Paper

8174

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8/ Higham  
Roberts  
Excluded  
Sept 11th

(Action  
completed)

(Index)

1/11/49

9/8/48

Next Paper

8229

(Minutes.)

This is quite a good photograph  
and the press might like to  
publish it to supplement their recent  
articles about this ship. If News  
Dept. have to give away the  
original picture to the News Agency,  
would they please obtain copies?

News Dept first

Copies to:

C.O.  
M.I.5  
Signal Office

Two copies taken  
for press. Further  
copies will be requested  
from Agency.

Shawcross  
(P. 11/11/48)

(S.E. CABLE)

5/9

11/9

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5
6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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E 8176

63

British Consulate-General,  
ALGIERS.

No. 98

28th August, 1947.

Sir,

With reference to my  
despatch No. 93 of the 21st August  
regarding the presence of the  
illegal immigrant ship "Paducah"  
at Bone on the 13th August, I  
have the honour to enclose herewith  
prints of the photograph taken of  
this ship and referred to in  
paragraph 4 of my despatch under  
reference.

2. A copy of this despatch,  
with enclosure, is being sent to  
His Majesty's Ambassador, Paris.

I have the honour to be,  
with the highest respect,  
Sir,

Your most obedient,  
humble servant,

*David L. L. L.*

The Right Honourable  
Ernest Bevin, M.P.,  
etc., etc., etc.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO

371

61848

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1				2	

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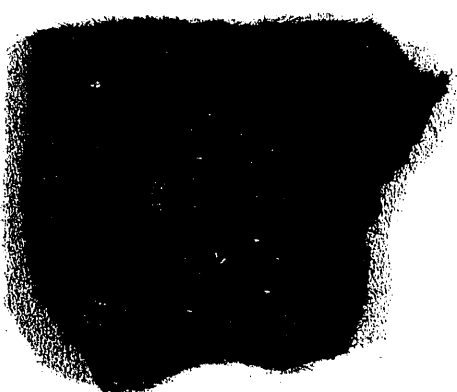
Reference:

FO 371 / 61848





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1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference: <b>FO</b> 377 / 61848					



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E

E 8229 65A

1947

PALESTINE

SEP

Registry  
Number

E8229/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

Sir N. Kelly.

Angora.

624

14 Sept

SS. 'Poduach'

My foreign affairs have received report from  
varna of Sept 3 stating that 'Poduach'  
was shortly due to leave that port for  
Bonstanga, she had on board 25 to 30  
passengers, whose nationality was unknown.

Last Paper.

8176

(Minutes.)

27/6/9

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

1.9. Dist  
Sept-6

(Action  
completed.)

J. C. 6/9

(Index.)

9/9/48

Next Paper.

8234

32003 F.O.P.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61848

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E 8222

Cypher/OTP

SEP 1 1947  
DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir D. Kelly

No. 624

D. 4.59 p.m. 4th September, 1947.

4th September, 1947. R. 11.3 a.m. 5th September, 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest

Sofia

Jerusalem

Cairo (British Middle East Office)

F F F F

CONFIDENTIAL

S.S. Paducah.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs informs me that they have received report from Varna dated September 3rd stating that Paducah was shortly due to leave that port for Constantza she had on board 25 to 30 passengers (men, women and children) whose nationality was unknown.

2. Foreign Office please pass to Admiralty and to Bucharest as my telegram No. 7.

[Repeated to Bucharest and copies sent to the Admiralty]



1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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E

E 8234

67

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry  
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E8234/84/31

M. Herndale

Bennett

P.O. 1126

5 Sept  
6

S.S. Podurak  
 Refers to 1184 (E8162/84/31) General  
 Orley had seen General Tokerepanov who said  
 that no application had been received from  
 the Agency for embankment of Teas. He said that  
 he would not agree should one be received  
 for other information.

Last Paper.

8229

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/99. Oct  
Sept 9th

8/ R.B. ditched

11/7. P.

ref.

Sept. 9th

P.T.O.

(Action  
completed.)

(Index.)

5/10/69/9

9/8/48

Next Paper.

8236

32003 F.O.P.

(Minutes.)

Copy to Mr. R.C. Mitchell  
 (H. of E. and P.) with copy of ref.  
 The Ministry of Fuel and Power  
 think the American company concerned  
 is the Socom Vacuum, who have  
 already been warned about the  
 "Podurak" and will probably be  
 prepared to cooperate. On the other  
 hand, they tell me that no British  
 or American firms at Lonsange are  
 allowed to supply bunkers. This  
 mention of an American firm looks  
 rather like camouflage.

Otherwise this news is satisfactory.  
 I do not think any further action is  
 required on this telegram.

Tell Sofia & Moscow we  
 agree on para. 3

113 Sept 6

Tel. Unit

Raby  
 (J.E. CABLE)

6/9

8/9

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6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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Action card 67A

tel/ Sofia no. 4

Sept. 8th

Replies Bucharest 908

Moscow 2911

8/ 1.1. Dist.

Sept 9th

1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

E 3232

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett  
No. 1126

September 5th, 1947. D. 4.37 p.m. September 5th, 1947.  
R. 7.20 p.m. September 5th, 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest  
Angora  
British Middle East Office Cairo  
Jerusalem  
Moscow

SSSSS

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 1184.

"Paducah".

Before receiving this telegram, General Oxley had seen General Tcherepanov (acting chairman of A.C.C.) who said that no (repeat no) application had been received from the Jewish agency for embarkation of Jews, promised to let us know if he received such application, and implied that he would not agree to any embarkation (Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed by note received September 5th (copy by bag) that neither embarkation or disembarkation would be allowed).

2. General Tcherepanov also stated that the Paducah (which was still at Varna to-day September 5th according to verbal message received at 14 hours from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) was without fuel and that the only suitable fuel would have to come from Constantza. It could not be sent until arrangements were made through an American firm whose name he did not know. In reply General Oxley urged that the ship should only be allowed enough fuel to reach nearest port outside Bulgarian territorial waters. Although he did not definitely agree to this (saying he would have to study the matter) General Tcherepanov seemed to think there was no objection to this idea.

3. I think therefore that our best line in Moscow is to press for limitation of fuel supplies suggested by General Oxley rather than to press for complete denial of fuel since Bulgaria can hardly be expected to keep the vessel at Varna for an indefinite period accumulating port charges and taking up harbour space.

Foreign Office pass to Jerusalem and Moscow as my telegrams Nos. 18 and 110 respectively.

[Repeated to Moscow  
Copies sent to Telegraph Section,  
Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

1	2	3	4	5	6

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Reference: FO 371 / 61848



## Registry

No. E 8234/84/31 J.E.C.

~~Secret.~~

~~Confidential.~~

**Restricted.**

**Open.**

SOFIA

No. 1201.

(Date) Sept. 8.

*Repeat to :—*

Buchanan no. 908.

Moscow, ~~75~~ 2911.

**Code.**

*Gypher.*

**Distribution :—**

Departmental No. 1

*Copies to :—*

I.I.P.

OUT FILE

*F. O.,*

194

Despatched

*M.*

En l'honneur

September 9 Your telegram no. 1126 [of 5<sup>th</sup> Jewish illegal immigration]  
I agree to action proposed  
in para. 3 of your telegram  
under reference

8/6

1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---

### Reference.

TO

27

61848

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E8234/34/31

Restricted.

En Clair.

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO SONIA.

No.1201

8th September, 1947. D: 2.0 p.m. 8th September, 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest No.908.  
Moscow No.2911.

A A A A

Your telegram No.1126 [of 5th September: Jewish  
illegal immigration].

I agree to action proposed in paragraph 3 of  
your telegram under reference.

70

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1			2	

Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

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339

E

E 8236

1947

PALESTINE

8 SEP

Registry Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

E 8236/84/31

C. L. L. L.

Washington

84/133/47

Sept 2 8

Refractment of Illegal Immigrants

Refer Washington letter 84/-/47 E 7674/84/31  
in practice of U.S. with regard to deportation  
of aliens. Transmits information provided  
by R.W. Hounnag, 2014/10/11  
annexing 40 letter E 3140/48/31

Last Paper

8234

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

This seems fairly satisfactory.

N.A. <sup>12/9</sup> <sup>23/1</sup> Dept.

Mr. Evans first

J. Fable  
(J.E. CABLE)

~~Indomitable~~  
~~unpardonable~~

Para. 4 is quite useful

By J. Fable  
Sept. 9

U.S. practice as stated in this letter does not give  
much support to the theory that the country from  
which illegal immigrants embarked for Palestine is  
obliged to accept them back.

WV9 Evans  
11/7.  
W.V. J. Evans

J.B. Sept. 15

(Action completed)

(Index)

J. Fable  
10/9

9/8/48

Next Paper

8263

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 / 61848

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E 8233

BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

84/133/47

September 2, 1947.

Dear Department,

Please refer to our letter 84/-/47 of the 14th August about the practice of the United States Government with regard to deportation of aliens.

2. Mr. R. W. Flournoy, an Assistant Legal Adviser in the Department of State who is an authority on this aspect of Federal Law has, after consultation with the Office of Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, provided the following information which we think will be a satisfactory answer to the enquiries contained in your letter E. 3140/48/31 of the 21st April.

3. Regarding the return by the United States of illegal immigrants to the states whence they came and the extent to which the wishes of those states are taken into consideration, the practice is stated to be that

"in the cases of the deportation of aliens who have actually entered the country, as distinguished from those who are excluded at the ports of entry, it is the practice of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, before deporting, to communicate with the government of the country to which it is proposed to send the alien, through the nearest consul thereof. The matter is presented first to the consul of the foreign country whence the alien came, that is, the country in which he was residing at the time

/of

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S. W. 1.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**

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\*2\*

of his emigration to the United States and next to the consul of the country from which he embarked or, if contiguous, the country from which he entered the United States. If neither of those countries is willing to receive him the matter is presented to the consul of the country of which he appears to be a national, and if the government of the latter refuses to receive him, the case is made the subject of diplomatic correspondence.

Under the law of the United States it is impossible to deny admission to a national thereof and our Government takes the position that it is obligatory upon the governments of foreign countries to receive their nationals who are deported from the United States".

4. Regarding the United States' attitude towards receiving back refoules from other states, the Immigration authorities inform Mr. Flournoy that

"when an alien who has been residing in the United States attempts to emigrate to a foreign country of which he is not a national, but is denied admission, our Government, upon his being sent back, will admit him. However, if the alien has, since his departure from the United States, been residing in a foreign country and the government of the latter seeks to deport him to the United States, it will be necessary for the alien to provide himself with an immigration visa before he can resume his residence in this country".

/The

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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73

\*3\*

The Immigration authorities further stated

"that occasionally an alien who is excluded at the port of arrival is sent back on a vessel of a transportation company other than that by which he was brought to this country, when the latter has no vessel which can take him within a reasonable time. It appears, however, that this course is taken upon the responsibility of the company by which he was brought, under arrangements made by the latter with the owners of the other vessel".

5. We apologize for the protracted delay in replying to your letter of the 21st April above referred to, but it appears that not only has Mr. Flournoy been extremely busy during recent months but also that he was for a time away ill.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

*[Signature]*

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2			

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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61848



Cypher/OTP

E 8263

DEPARTMENTAL No: 1

SEP

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett  
No: 1128

D. 12.14.p.m. 6th September  
1947

6th September 1947

R. 4.15.p.m. 6th September  
1947

Repeated to Angora  
Bucharest  
Panama  
Paris

X:X:X:

IMPORTANT

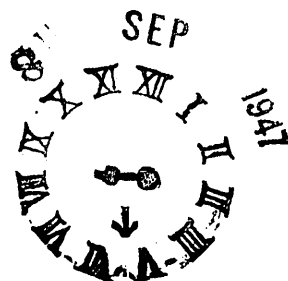
Your telegram No: 1175.

Paducah.

Acting United States Political Representative  
has not yet received anything from Panamanians.  
If and when he does he proposes to inform State  
Department and say that failing instructions to the  
contrary he will act as requested.

Foreign Office please pass to Panama and  
Important to Paris as my telegrams Nos: 1 and 43 respectively.

[Repeated to Panama and Paris].



1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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532 742

1947

E

E 8315 76

SEP 1947

Registry Number

E8315/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

M. Holman  
Bucharest

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

943  
8 L, F  
9

S.S. Rodocak  
Refer to E 894 (E8166/84/31) There are indications that Rodocak will embark considerable number of immigrants when she arrives in Roumania station from Varna. S.S. CORINA will also probably embark immigrants from Black Sea Port.

Last Paper.

8301-

References.

(Minutes.)

Telegram sent to Bucharest about "CORINA"

9/9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/9. I. I. Dist.  
Sept 12th

Tel Bucharest 918  
Rpt Warsaw 2929  
Sept 9.

8/9. I. I. P.  
Sept 12th TO

(Action completed)

J. E. Morley

(Index.)

9/16/48

Next Paper.

83251

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

Reference: FO 371 / 61848

Relation Cont. 76A

8/16, Colo. Emmett  
N.I.B. Adjutant  
Sept. 18

1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61848



77

67

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

No. 943

D. 1.07 p.m. 8th September, 1947

8th September, 1947

R. 3.00 p.m. 8th September, 1947

Repeated to Moscow

Angora

Sofia

British Middle East Office Cairo

**● ● ●      ● ● ● ●**

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegrams Nos. 894 and 902 [see footnote].

There are indications that the S.S. Paducah will embark a considerable number of illegal Jewish emigrants when she arrives in Roumanian waters from Varna.

2. Although preparations to service her have been made at Constanza there is a possibility that she will embark emigrants at Carmen Sylva or Mongolia [sic]. Both places are being kept under observation.

3. The S.S. Corina, alias Sfentu Stefan, which was reported at Macin in weekly suspect shipping list No.14 is reported to be sailing on September 10th from Macin for "Greece". [Gp. indec.] Coulis and an employee of Pandelis are on board the Corina which is sailing without a national flag. It is possible that this ship and the Paducah may embark Jewish emigrants together from a Black Sea port.

4. I have informed the Roumanian Government that Uruguayan Government has not authorised issue of visas to these emigrants and that these are therefore invalid.

Foreign Office please report to Angora and Middle East Office Cairo as my telegrams Nos. 12 and 13 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora and British Middle East Office  
Cairo].

[Note by Communications Department: Foreign Office telegram No.894 to Bucharest repeats Montevideo telegram No.250 to Foreign Office and Foreign Office telegram No.902 to Bucharest repeats Angora telegram No.624 to Foreign Office].



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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry  
No. E8315/84/31

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

BUCHAREST

Telegram.

No. 918

(Date) Sept 9<sup>th</sup>

Repeat to:-

Moscow No. 2929

In Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:-

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:-

I.A.P.

OUT FILE

F.O., 78

194).

Important

Despatched

M.

Confidential

Your telegram no. 943 [of  
8<sup>th</sup> September: Jewish illegal  
immigration]

Please request Roumanian  
Govt. not to allow "CORINA"  
to sail until she acquires  
some nationality. Similar action  
has been taken by other  
Govts. at our request, notably  
of Danish and Swedish  
Govts. are now detaining suspect  
ships on these grounds and  
provisions enforcing permitting detention  
of unregistered vessels exist in  
/law

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5
6

Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

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law of most countries.

*[Signature]*  
9/9

[Copy sent to Mr. Lee]

78A

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**



OUT FILE

79

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST.

9th September 1947.                      D. 11 a.m. 10th September 1947.

Repeated to Moscow No. 2929.

V V V

IMPORTANT.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No. 943 [of 8th September:  
Jewish illegal immigration].

Please request Roumanian Government not to allow "Corina" to sail until she acquires some nationality. Danish and Swedish Governments are now detaining suspect ships on these grounds and provisions permitting detention of unregistered vessels exist in law of most countries.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

FO 371 / 61848

243

E

E 8325

1947

VALUOTIME

80

Registry  
Number

E 8325/84/31.

FROM

General

No.

Marseilles

Dated

5.1.

Received  
in Registry

5.1.1

10

weekly suspect shipping Report.

Report covering period at Marseilles  
from 21 Aug to Sept 5, 1947.

Last Paper

8315

References

*[Handwritten marks]*

(Print)

(How disposed of)

J. Schen. M.I.S.  
Higham. C.O.  
(Cabin Office)  
Cabin Office  
Sept 15

(Action  
completed)

*[Signature]*  
9/15/47

(Index)

*[Signature]*  
9/15/47

Next Paper

8339

(Minutes.)

copy to M.I.S. (Mr. Schen)  
C.O. (Mr. Higham)  
Cabin Office (Cdr. Evershed)  
*[Signature]* 10/4

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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British Consulate-General,  
Marseilles.

5th September, 1947. <sup>80A</sup>

Secret. S1.

E 13325

With the compliments

of

H.M. Acting Consul-General.

(Weekly suspect shipping report)

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London.

28

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**



## 81

81

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81

81

61848

E 83

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

10 SEP 5

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

D. 10.07 p.m. 8th September 1947.

8th September 1947. R. 11.55 p.m. 8th September 1947.

Repeated to: Sofia,  
Bucharest and  
Panama.

22/1/10

②

16

10

ore:

10

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1	2	3	4	5	6
	1			2	

Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848





845

1947

E

845

E 8350

10 SEP 1

<p>Registry Number } E 8350/84/31</p> <p>FROM 7.0 minute</p> <p>No. 44.646</p> <p>Dated</p> <p>Received in Registry } 9 Sept</p> <p style="margin-left: 100px;">10 -</p>	<p><u>Illegal Immigrant Ships, Panamanian.</u></p> <p>describes the employment of Panamanian shipping in the search for illegal immigrants &amp; repress.</p>
--	---

<p><b>Last Paper</b></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">8339</p> <p><b>References</b></p> <p>(Print)</p> <p>(How disposed of)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">(Minutes.)</p> <p>Please see also E 8314/48/6</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i> (CABLE) 10/9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Now see E 8356</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i> 11/9</p>
---	--

<p>(Action completed)</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 9/11/48</p>	<p>(Index)</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 9/11/48</p>
<p><b>Next Paper</b></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">E 8356</p>	

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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85

10 SEP

455

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## References

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85A

countries, be refused clearance until she obtains such registration. This pretext has already been successfully employed to detain the "San Eusebia" at Copenhagen and the "San Basilio" at Gothenburg.

Lack of a port of registry is a particularly good reason for refusing clearance to a suspect ship, since this defect is less easily remedied than, for instance, absence of load lines, incomplete papers or other formal or technical deficiencies which have also served as pretexts for such action. Even the French authorities, otherwise unco-operative, might have agreed to detain the "Paducah" and "Northlands", could we have induced the Panamanian Government to withdraw their registration.

4. The Panamanian Government might well be reluctant to give a general assurance of the nature contemplated above. Their flag derives its remarkable popularity, on which they appear to pride themselves, from the ease with which it can be acquired. On the other hand, a specific request to withdraw Panamanian registry from seven named ships and to refrain from granting it to twenty-eight others would serve our purpose almost as well. We could point out that,

- a) These ships normally only enjoy a very brief period of activity and thus contribute little or nothing to the Panamanian exchequer beyond the original registration fee, which would, I understand from the Panamanian Consulate-General, in any case be retained by the Panamanians.
- b) The unsavoury activities of these ships receive considerable publicity and bring discredit upon the Panamanian flag.
- c) We have asked and are asking other countries to take similar action, thus ensuring that ships lost to the Panamanian flag would not be transferred to any other.

There are two objections, from the point of view of the Panamanian Government, to these proposals. The first is that, since some ships are inevitably wrongly suspected and afterwards cleared, Panamanian registry might be withdrawn from an innocent vessel whose owners would subsequently avoid the Panamanian flag. The second objection is that, by depriving suspect ships of their registration, the Panamanian Government might lose that reputation for unscrupulous impartiality which attracts so many ship-owners to their flag. To the first objection we could reasonably reply by an assurance that we would only ask for Panamanian registry to be withdrawn from ships against which our suspicions were really strong. In answer to the

second/

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86

second we could point out that the various administrative measures taken to detain suspect Panamanian ships in U.K. ports, which have been the subject of complaints by the Panamanian Legation in London, have already diminished the popularity of the Panamanian flag. If, however, there were no longer any suspect vessels under the Panamanian flag, ship owners without any intention of engaging in this traffic would no longer need to fear that Panamanian registry would entail any suspicion being attached to their activities.

5. If it is decided to approach the Panamanian Government on this subject, I suggest that this should be done through the Panamian Legation in London. The Panamanian representatives in London, and in particular the Consul-General (Senor Morales), have consistently adopted a more sympathetic attitude than that of the Government of Palestine themselves and their recommendations might increase our chance of succeeding.

*J. E. Cable*  
J. E. Cable.

9th September, 1947.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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347 246

E

E 8356

1947.

PALESTINE

SEP 1 87

Registry  
Number

E 8356/84/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

411 Mr. H. G. Clarke  
Paris

Dated

884

Received  
in Registry

9 Sept

11

S.S. 'Podurak'

Refer Paris tel 881 (E 8339/84/31) Romanian  
Legation have now received instructions  
and are telegraphing Sofia.

Last Paper.

8350

(Minutes.)

Now see E 8450

12/4

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/99. Dist  
✓ Sept 12

(Action  
completed.)

9/26/41

(Index)

9/8/48

Next Paper.

8879

32003 F.O.P.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 / 61848

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82

## A circular clock face with Roman numerals. The date "11 SEP 1941" is stamped over it. The hands of the clock are positioned to indicate the time 10:10.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

1 2 3 4 5 6



8379

1947

E

E 8379

89

11 SEP 1947

PALESTINE

Registry  
Number

E 8379/84/21

FROM

Political Rep

No.

Bucharest

Dated

198

Received  
in Registry

20 Aug  
11 Sept

S.S. Padurari

Refer Bucharest dispatch 184 (E 8085/84/21)  
enclosed copy of letter from British Mission  
& Allied Control Commission of Aug 25.  
urging prevention of illegal Jewish immigration  
on the Padurari.

Last Paper

835-6

(Minutes.)

8/11/9

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action  
completed)

5/11/9

(Index)

9/8/48

Next Paper

8381

39538

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

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198

(349/34/47)

Political

HIS Majesty's Representative at Bucharest  
presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

Office of the

British Political Representative,

Bucharest.

E 8379

30th August...., 1947....

Reference to previous correspondence:

Bucharest despatch No. 184 of 21st August

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copy of letter from British Mission to Allied Control Commission dated 25th August.	Prevention of illegal Jewish immigration on s.s. Paducah.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

1	2	3	4	5	6

Copy

91

British Military Mission,  
Bucharest.

25th August, 1947.

General Susaikov,  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Allied Control Commission.

The British Political Representative in Roumania has received information that a ship, the "PADUCAH" flying the Panamanian flag, is now in the Black Sea and is expected to arrive shortly at some Roumanian port, probably Constanza to take on board illegal Jewish immigrants. The immigrants are believed to be in possession of Uruguayan visas which are presumably forgeries or issued by an unqualified person. There is no representative of Uruguay in Roumania.

It is believed that the destination of these illegal Jewish immigrants is Palestine. In any case the "PADUCAH" is incapable of carrying passengers to South America as she is a small ship of some 240 tons register.

The British Government attach the greatest importance to the prevention of this illegal traffic and the British Political Representative in Roumania has requested the Roumanian authorities to prevent the embarkation of these immigrants. I would ask you to co-operate in this matter and take whatever steps you consider necessary to stop this illegal immigration. I would further request that instructions be given to the Roumanian port authorities to apply to this ship the provisions of the Load Line Convention and the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, to both of which Roumania is a party. These provisions should be applied whether the ship embarks passengers or not.

(Sgd.) E.R. GREER.  
Brigadier  
Acting Commissioner.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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E

E 8381

1947

92

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 538/84/31

Chancery  
Washington

9/65/-/47

11 Sept

Illegal Immigrant Ships.  
Enclosed copies of letters from Vice Consul  
Jacksonville to Consulate, Miami, and from  
Miami to Embassy. re sea-going tug  
named "GLORIA" which appears to be  
possible candidate for illegal immigration  
traffic.

Last Paper

8379

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

J. Peters.  
M.I.  
Sept-12

(Action  
completed)

J. Peters.  
9/12/47

(Index)

J. Peters.  
9/12/47

Next Paper

8382

(Minutes.)

copy to: Mr. Schen M.I. 5

J. Peters.  
9/12/47

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

Reference:

FO

371

61848

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E 8381

BRITISH EMBASSY.

93

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

September 5th, 1947.

Ref. G165/-/47  
CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Department,

We enclose herein two self-explanatory letters from the Vice-Consulate at Jacksonville to the Consulate at Miami and from the latter to us about a sea-going tug called the "Gloria" which appeared to be a possible candidate for the Jewish illegal immigration traffic.

We have told the Ambassador for Honduras here that we should like to obtain a few more details about her if an application for permanent Honduran registry has been received. He has not so far heard of her. We also asked our Consul-General in New York to make enquiries of the Honduran Consul-General there. New York have now informed us that the official in charge of the Honduran Consulate-General has assured them that he has had no application whatsoever about the "Gloria". He then volunteered the information that although his office does issue registration certificates, it is necessary for applicants first to apply direct to Tegucigalpa. The necessary authority is then sent to him by telegraph if the Honduran Minister of War and Marine approves. He produced one telegram of this kind, the preamble of which began "after approval by the Minister of War and Marine and by the British Legation etc". This official was asked if, as a personal favour, he would telephone our Consul-General should he receive an application in respect to the "Gloria".

We are sending copies of this letter to Jerusalem and to Tegucigalpa.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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C  
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P  
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94

British Consulate

Miami 23, Florida.

19th August, 1947.

Dear Henderson,

With reference to Chancery circular of the 10th May (G124/-/47) about the sailing of certain ships from the United States, I enclose herein a copy of a letter from Frank White, in Jacksonville, about the "Gloria", a 300 ton sea-going tug. You will see that an application for Honduran registry has been made to the Honduran Consul at Jacksonville but that the Consul, feeling a bit dubious about the transaction (Greek interests are said to be involved and it is believed the vessel is to operate from southern European ports) has felt it desirable to refer the application to his Consul General at New York. The "Gloria" is said to be at present at Charleston, South Carolina.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) J. C. THOMSON

N. Henderson, Esq.,  
British Embassy,  
Washington, D.C.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	2	1

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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C  
O  
P  
Y

95

British Vice Consulate,  
Jacksonville,  
Florida.

August 14, 1947.

Dear Consulate,

We have learned that an application has been made for Honduran registry of the 300 ton seagoing tug "Gloria" (ex ATR 7). We understand that this tug is now at Charleston, South Carolina, and it is desired to form a Honduran company to be known as the Athens Shipping and Salvage Company for the purpose of owning and operating this ship. We believe that Greek interests are involved.

It is not proposed to use this vessel in the Western hemisphere but rather in Southern Europe - possibly from ports in Portugal or France. As so little was known of the parties involved and of the difficulties in securing complete information, the Honduran Consul in Jacksonville is not prepared to grant Honduran registry and is referring the request to the Honduran Consul-General in New York.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) F. J. WHITE.

British Consulate,  
Miami,  
Florida.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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96

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group *FO* .....

Class *371* .....

Piece *61848* .....

Following document(s) retained in the  
Department of origin under Section 3 (4)  
of the Public Records Act, 1958

*E8382/84/31*

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1			2	

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Reference: **FO** *371* / **61848**

39538



OUTWARD TELEGRAM

76021/58/47

Cypher (O.T.P.)

E 8383

11 SEP 1947

TO PALESTINE (O.A.G.)

FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

Sent 6th September, 1947. 15.15 hrs.

No. 2073 Top Secret.

Your telegram No. 1497 Top Secret.

Transport of illegal immigrants.

Since despatch of your telegram under reference a number of ships on the suspect list have either been cleared of suspicion or else are unlikely to move in the near future, e.g. SAN BASILIO, KORA, ARKANGELOS.

2. NORTHLANDS, YILDERAN, LAS TAMPLAS and PADUCAN (total capacity 4,300) are the only ships definitely suspected which could sail within next few weeks. Three large ships recently placed on suspect list (PAN CRESCENT, PAN YORK and BURHANIYE) are either temporarily immobilised or else are engaged for the time being in legitimate trade.

3. Ministry of Transport will do their best to expedite turn-round of large transports but it is unlikely they will be back in Haifa in less than five weeks from date of sailing from Port de Bouc. They should, however, be on station in time to cope with arrival of any of large ships mentioned above. It is considered unlikely that smaller vessels known to be preparing could all arrive simultaneously before the transports have returned.

4. Clearly however the situation would be difficult, even with the three large transports available, should one or more of the suspected large ships succeed in reaching Palestine should any of these ships be so badly damaged as to be

UNCLASSIFIED

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Reference: FO 371

61848



98A

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1	2

Reference: FO 37 / 61848

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FO 371 / 61848



## 99

N. 243  
Secretary of State  
Sir T. Lloyd  
Mr. I. Thomas  
Sir S. Caine  
Sir C. Jeffries  
Mr. Holding  
No. 10 Downing Street  
Lord President  
Admiralty  
"  
"  
War Office  
" "  
" " {M.O. 4.}  
" " {M.I. 3.}  
Air Ministry  
" "  
Cabinet Offices  
" "  
" "  
" "  
Foreign Office  
" "  
" "  
Ministry of Defence  
" "  
" "  
M.I. 5.  
Ministry of Transport  
Foreign Office  
Research Department

Mr. Martin  
Mr. Trafford Smith  
Mr. Gutch  
Mr. Mathieson  
Mr. Higham  
Mr. Bennett

P.S. to Prime Minister.  
Private Secretary.

First Sea Lord.  
Mr. G.C.B. Dodds,  
Private Secretary.  
C.I.O.S.  
Lt.Col. M.M. Charteris.  
Lt.Col. Price.  
Private Secretary.  
Chief of Air Staff.  
Sir N. Brook.  
Mr. S.E.V. Luke.  
Mr. T.A.G. Charlton.  
Commander Evershed.  
Private Secretary.  
Mr. C.W. Baxter.  
Mr. Beith.  
Private Secretary.  
Sir H. Wilson Smith.  
Defence Registry.  
Mr. T.A. Robertson.  
Mr. Graham.

Air Commodore K.C. Baugh

1 2 3 4 5 6

1 2

Reference: **FO** 37 / 61848

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35-1

E

E 8386

SEP

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number E8386/84/31

FROM

Embassy

No.

Rome

Dated

325/218/47

Received in Registry

29 Aug  
11 Sept

Illegal Immigration, Italy, 'BRUNA'  
Copy of note verbal to City Foreign Affairs  
325/218/47 no 489 of Aug 29. concerning  
the arrival in Palestine of the 'BRUNA'  
carrying a large number of illegal immigrants  
from Italy.

Last Paper

8383

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8/ Higham  
Robertson  
checked  
Sept 17

(Action completed)

J. E. M. 1/9

(Index)

del  
9/8/48

Next Paper

8415

(Minutes.)

Copies:

C.O.

M.I. 5

Colonial Office

usual  
names

This is an instance of the  
value of proper investigation.

Hebble  
(J.E. CADRE)

10 Sept 11/9

1  
2  
3  
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5  
6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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325/218/47

29th August 1947.

E 8383

1 SEP 1947

*With the compliments of*

*His Majesty's Ambassador at Rome.*

Western Department,  
Foreign Office, S.W.1.

60

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	2	2	2

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

SECRET325/218/47  
N.V. No.498NOTE VERBALE

The British Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honour to bring to their attention the following information in connection with the use of ships of Italian origin for the illegal immigration of Jews to Palestine.

This Embassy has received a report from the British Security Authorities in Palestine of the arrival in Haifa on 28th July of the ship "BRUNA" carrying a large party of Jews attempting to enter the country illegally. From this report it is clear that the bulk of the passengers on the "BRUNA" were embarked from the North Western coast of Italy. At the same time, independent information received by the British Embassy indicates that a series of small scale ferrying operations were undertaken by the Jewish organisation concerned from a stretch of coast between La Spezia and Leghorn to a large vessel lying off-shore between 16th and 18th July. It has been ascertained, for instance, that a group of about 100 Jewish immigrants from Milan were clandestinely embarked from Bocca di Magra on the night of 17/18 July 1947 in a small motor vessel placed at their disposal by the Cantiere Vene of Bocca di Magra.

This clandestine embarkation was inaccurately reported at the time in the local press, and persistently denied by the Public Security Authorities in the area. It is evident nevertheless that embarkation did take place and from careful interrogation of the Jews subsequently disembarked from the "BRUNA" in Haifa it is clear that they were not interfered with by the local Italian Public Security Authorities.

The former Italian ownership of the "BRUNA" which has been impounded by the authorities in Palestine, is established beyond doubt by its registration number COGENA 3171. The British Embassy considers in the circumstances that it must draw the attention of the Italian Government not only to its dismay that it should be possible for illegal activity of this nature to take place on Italian soil but also to its surprise that at a time when Italy is making such great efforts to expand her mercantile marine and development of her sea trade Italian shipping should be allowed to be used for such wasteful and unworthy ends.

Rome

29th August, 1947.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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35-2

# E

103

E 8415

SEP

1947

PALESTINE

Registry  
Number

Registry  
Number } E 8415 / 84 / 31

**TELEGRAM FROM**

*No.*

Moscow

*Dated*

2039

*Received*

Received } 10 Sept  
in Registry }

10 Sept

S.S. Poduch

Refr #0 to 2823 (R 11835/62/7.) mentioned  
to Head of European Dept, that our representation  
in Bulgaria were already in touch with local  
Soviet Reps with a view to limiting any  
food supplies for the 'Podunav' who explained  
position as cavalry Uruguayan vessel.

## Last Paper.

8386

(Minutes.)

11/9

## References.

(Print.)

*(How disposed of.)*

9, 9.9.12

(Action completed.)

7/12/9

(Index.)

9/8/48

**Next Paper.**

8430.

**S2008 F.O.P.**

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## References

FO 371 / 61848

104

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

R: 7.30 p.m. 10th Sept., 1947

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office  
for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**



313

E

E 8430

105

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number E8430/84/31  
FROM Consulate  
No. Bordeaux.  
Dated 71.  
Received in Registry 8 Sept  
11

S.S. "Northlands"

Re Bordeaux despatch 61. (E 7531/84/31)  
Enclosed copy of Bordeaux despatch 34 to  
Paris of Sept. 8. Enclosed copy of letter  
from Panamanian Consulate establishing fact  
that "Northlands" cleared from Genoa, and  
that French authorities were satisfied that  
vessel carried no passengers.

Last Paper

8415

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

9/1. Paper no. 224.  
Bucharest no. 416.  
Secret  
8/1. Digham  
Robertson  
checked.  
Sept 17/47

(Action completed)

(Index)

Next Paper

8431

(Minutes.)

Refers to:

C.O.  
N.I.S.  
Bureau Office

usual  
names

and under P/L to:  
Sofia  
Bucharest.

This conflicts with the report in  
Sofia telegram no. 1144 (E8453) that there  
are 30 passengers on board, who have  
been there for 3 months.

Re-submit a/a

Now re E 8453

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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SECRET.

No. 71  
(6652/40/4/2)

106  
HIS Majesty's Acting Consul at Bordeaux  
presents his compliments to H.M. Secretary of State  
for Foreign Affairs,  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

British....Consulate,.....

.....Bordeaux. ....

E 8430

8th. September, 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Bordeaux despatch No. 61 (6652/40/4/2) to  
H.M. Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
dated 11.8.47. Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copy of Bordeaux despatch No. 34 of 8th. September, 1947, to H.M. Ambassador at Paris.	Illegal Jewish Immigration.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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LAB/P

SECRET.

108

No. 34

(6652/40/4/2)

British Consulate,  
15, Cours de Verdun,  
Bordeaux.

8th. September, 1947.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Crossley's letter of the 28th. August to Mr. Beith, about the "Northlands" I have the honour to forward herewith a certified copy of a letter, which I have received from my Panamanian colleague, addressed to him by the Direction des Douanes at Bayonne.

2. This letter establishes that the "Northlands" cleared for a given port, i.e., Genoa, and that the French authorities were satisfied that the vessel carried no passengers.

3. I have sent a copy of this despatch to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most  
obedient, humble Servant,

(Signed) L.A. BARKER.

His Excellency,  
The Right Honourable  
A. Duff Cooper, D.S.O.,  
etc., etc., etc.

44

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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354

1947

E

E 8435

109

SEP 1

S.S. 'ANAK'

Registry Number

E 8435/84/31.

FROM

OXanery

No.

Madrid

Dated

278/84/47.

Received in Registry

8 Sept 11

Refers abstract letter 275/77/47 (E7968/84/71)  
Earlier more detailed report from Consulate  
at Palma de Mallorca, re use of  
Balearics as collecting point for illegal  
Immigrant Jews.

Last Paper

8430

References

16/11

(Print)

(How disposed of)

diagram

Robustian

Exchanged

Sept 17

(Action completed)

9/8/48

(Index)

9/8/48

Next Paper

8443

(Minutes)

Refers to:

C.O.

M.I.5

Labour Office

usual

names

12/9

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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BRITISH EMBASSY,

278/84/47

MADRID.

8th September, 1947.

E 8435

SEP 1

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Department,

.....  
With reference to our letter 275/77/47 of the 25th August last about the possibility of the Balearics being used as a collecting point for Jews, we have now received a more detailed report from the Consulate at Palma de Mallorca, a copy of which is enclosed.

2. Although, as you know, we did not raise the matter officially with the Spanish authorities in Madrid for lack of evidence, you will see that the Consul broached it with the local authorities in the course of his enquiries.

3. We are sending a copy of this letter to Algiers.

Yours ever,

Chancery.

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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COPY

British Consulate,  
Palma de Mallorca,

CONFIDENTIAL (Copied to  
Barcelona)

27th August, 1947

97/1

Dear Chancery,

With reference to recent correspondence regarding Jewish illegal immigrants; I have made extensive investigations, both in Mallorca and in Menorca, and some in Ibiza, but have found nothing to confirm the report in connection with the visit last May of the S.S. Anal nor to support the allegation that the Balearic Islands are a collecting centre for this traffic. The only suspicious circumstance has been the visit to Palma of the Jew, Jacob Gerofy, but there is some evidence to indicate that his visit had to do with black market exchange rather than with immigrants.

It would be almost impossible for anything to have happened in or near Balearic ports in connection with this traffic without many local rumours at once arising, and there has up to now been no gossip about such matters. The skipper of a British yacht cruising in Balearic waters tells me he has seen nothing suspicious. If, then, the S.S. Anal or other vessels since her visit here have taken on board illegal immigrants, they must have been encountered on the high seas at a considerable distance from these coasts by schooners or such like craft from France or Italy, as Hobson has suggested.

I have the impression that the local authorities are not very pleased with the suggestion that the islands are used as a collecting centre. The Civil Governor tells me that it is the first he has heard of the matter, though he assures me that "appropriate measures" will be taken should there prove to be any truth in the allegation. It is not improbable that he regards it as another of the calumnies uttered against Spain by various left wing centres abroad.

Nevertheless /

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

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111A

2.

Nevertheless, it seems to be almost universally the opinion locally that if such illegal activities existed the Spanish Government would do all it could to assist in its suppression. Perhaps however the question is more complex than the general public knows.

Yours ever,

(signed) Ivan Lake

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
MADRID.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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35-5

E

E 8443

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1947

Registry  
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8443/84/31

M. Halman  
Bucharest

953

11 Sept  
12

S.S. CORINA

Rptn 40 til 918 (E 8315/84/31) CORINA is  
stated to be leaving for Istanbul to obtain  
a provisional certificate of Greek registry  
from Greek Consul General there in the  
absence of any Greek diplomatic or consular  
representatives - Roumania.

Last Paper.

8455

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of)

8/9.9. Dist  
Sept 16.

7d, Athens 1878  
Rptd Bucharest 931.  
Istanbul 96  
Maroussi 2956

11/9

8/9.9. P. Sept 16

(Action  
completed.)

(Index.)

7/9/48

7/9/48

Next Paper.

8450

(Minutes.)

Telegram sent to Athens, instructing  
H.M. Embassy to request Greeks to refuse  
registration

12/9

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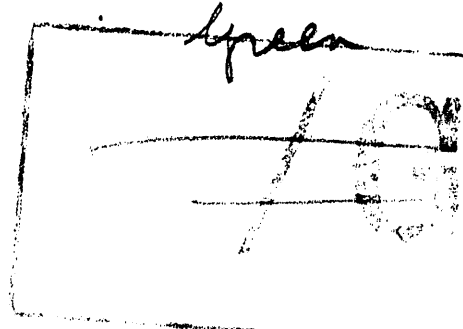
Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

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E 8443

SEP 11 1947



Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Holman. D. 11.47 a.m. 11th September, 1947.  
No. 953.

11th September, R. 2.05 p.m. 11th September, 1947.  
1947.

Repeated to Moscow.

3 3 3

IMPORTANT.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No. 918.

The "Corina" is stated to be leaving for Istanbul (Constantinople) to obtain a provisional certificate of Greek registry from the Greek Consulate-General there in the absence of any Greek diplomatic or consular representative in Roumania.

2. Under these circumstances I consider any attempt to prevent her departure on grounds of lack of nationality would be met by the unchallengeable reply that she is leaving for Istanbul to obtain her Greek registry.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].



1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**

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not to grant registration;  
(b) to inform the  
Roumanian Govt. that Greek  
registry will not be granted  
to this ship.

66/4

114A

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

115

**Figure 1**

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

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**Reference:**

FO 371

61848

S.S. Corina (whose particulars are contained in Weekly List of Suspect Shipping) is reported to be about to sail from Macin in order to obtain a provisional certificate of Greek registry from the Greek Consulate-General at Istanbul (Constantinople).

- (a) to instruct their Consul-General at Istanbul not to grant registration;
- (b) to inform Roumanian Government that Greek registry will not be granted to this ship.

(a) to instruct their Consul-General at Istanbul not to grant registration;

(b) to inform Roumanian Government that Greek registry will not be granted to this ship.



35-6

1947

E

E 8450

116

Registry Number E 8450/84/31.

FROM F.O. Minute  
in Wilson Young

No.  
Dated  
Received in Registry 10 Sept  
12 -

Illegal Immigrant Ships.

Discusses taking up with DR DEMETRIO PORRAS, Panamanian Minister in London, question of use of Panamanian ships in Illegal Immigrant Traffic.

Last Paper

8443

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

10pt. D.O.D.A  
(encls) Porras  
Sept 17.  
Lamps. S.D. Greenway  
Legation  
Panama

Sept 10/4/11  
Paris

Sept 8 P.T.O.

(Action completed)

7/24/11

(Index)

7/24/11

Next Paper

E 8453

(Minutes.)

I think we should now reply to Mr. Greenway's telegram (E 8314/48/6), telling him of this interview.  
We should also write a letter to the Panamanian Legation, as requested by Dra. Porras. If Señor Morales is coming to see Mr. Beith, this might afford a suitable opportunity to hand over the letter and, simultaneously, to drive home its points.

Please see also E 8350

*Huble*  
(C.E. CABLE)

N.A. Dept. 12/9

I agree. Please draft and show to N.A. Dept.

12/9  
J.B. Sept. 12

Drafts submitted  
(Tel. seen by N.A. Dept. and sent)

*Huble*  
(C.E. CABLE)  
P.T.O. 13/9

1
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Reference:

FO

371

61848

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this is now urgent. Dr. Porras leaves on the 20th

J. S. Baird  
Sept. 15

*[Signature]*  
20/9

B.V. 1/10  
*[Signature]*  
4/11

116A

Comp. Political Repi

encs

Papier

Bucharest

Sept. 18

3el) Panama no 98.

Rept. Bucharest. no 94.

Pavia. no 1799(5).

Sept. 16

Sept 17

8) U. P. Sept. 16

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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Doctor Demetrio Porras, Panamanian Minister  
in London

E 8450

Doctor Porras, who is shortly returning to Panama, is one of the leaders of the Panamanian Socialist Party. He believes that he has a good chance of winning the Presidential elections next year if he decides to stand, (although his Party fared badly at the last elections in 1945 and his political influence is thought to have deteriorated considerably). The present Government is composed of a coalition of liberal parties under President Enrique Adolfo Jimenez.

Dr. Porras has been <sup>suspected of being</sup> involved in Communist activities. He is intelligent, but inclined to be fussy and vain.

Recently Doctor Porras protested (unjustifiably) at ~~the~~ alleged discrimination by His Majesty's Government against Panamanian Merchant Shipping. (Our reply, stating that no such discrimination has taken place, will very shortly be sent to Doctor Porras.) Previously, with more justification, he had protested against some extremely scurrilous articles in the "Daily Mirror" attacking the Panamanian Merchant Marine with phrases such as "This is the flag that waives the rules", and "The smelliest flag on the seven seas". We sent a soothing reply to this protest disclaiming any responsibility for the views expressed by the "Daily Mirror". Nevertheless, these articles may be partly responsible for the recent failure of the Panamanian Government to take action against Panamanian ships suspected of complicity in the Jewish illegal immigration traffic.

The Secretary of State may care to take up with Doctor Porras the question of withdrawing Panamanian registry from ships on our suspect list. There are at present seven of these ships, of which the most

dangerous/

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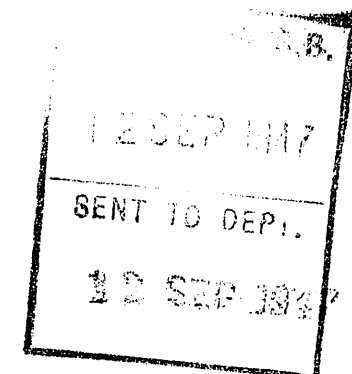
117A

dangerous are the "PADUCAH" and the "NORTHLANDS". Each of these ships is expected to attempt to embark approximately 2,000 Jewish illegal immigrants from a Roumanian port in the very near future. Withdrawal of Registry from these ships would facilitate our efforts to detain them and, from the 25th July onwards, we have repeatedly asked the Panamanian Government to do so. Although we have always pointed out that proof of complicity in illegal immigration can never be supplied until the ships actually reach Palestine, the Panamanian Government have consistently refused to take action without conclusive proof.

The Panamanian Government are fully aware of the grounds on which we suspect the "PADUCAH" and the "NORTHLANDS". The Secretary of State may wish to recapitulate the salient points. Both ships declared false destinations on leaving Bayonne, where they had embarked large supplies of provisions, 500 life saving appliances and quantities of barbed wire (for defence against boarding). Both ships have Jewish crews whose numbers exceed those required by such small ships. The "PADUCAH" carries canteens and cups for 3,500 and the "NORTHLANDS" is owned by the same firm as the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" and the "TRADEWINDS", both of which reached Palestine waters with Jewish illegal immigrants on board.

In conclusion, it might be useful to remind Doctor Porras that any ships reaching Palestine with Jewish illegal immigrants on board are automatically impounded.

*Handwritten signature*  
to: I.A.D. Wilson-Young)  
10th Sept. 1947.



1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**

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Registry  
No. E8450/84/31

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

J.E.C. OUT FILE

F.O.,

14/9 1947.  
Despatched 3.15 p M.

Draft.

PANAMA

Confidential

Telegram.

No. 98

(Date) Sept 13<sup>th</sup>

Repeat to

Bucharest no 98.

Paris (Soyuz) no 1999.

Sofia no 1240.

En Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:-

Departmental NO. 1

NA. DEPT

Copies to:-

I.I.P.

Your telegram no. 85 [of 8<sup>th</sup> September: Jewish illegal immigration]

Dr. PORRAS called on me on 10<sup>th</sup> September ~~when~~ I spoke to him about "PADUCAH" and "NORTHLANDS". He undertook to do his best and asked for particulars in writing, which are being sent to him.

13/4

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO

371

61848

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OUT FILE

119

E 8450/84/31

Confidential

Cypher OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PANAMA

No. 98

12th September 1947. D. 3.15 p.m. 14th September 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest No. 941  
Paris No. 1799 (Saving)  
Sofia No. 1240

CONFIDENTIAL

TTTTTT

Your telegram No. 85 [of 8th September: Jewish  
illegal immigration].

Dr. Perras called on me on 10th September when  
I spoke to him about "Padusah" and "Northlands". He  
undertook to do his best and asked for particulars  
in writing, which are being sent to him.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1				2	

Reference:

FO 371

61848

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~~Top Secret.~~  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
~~Restricted.~~  
Open.

✓ Draft. Note to:-

His Excellency  
Senor Dr. Don  
Demetrio A. Porras,  
etc., etc., etc.,  
Panamanian Legation,  
123, Warrford  
Court,  
Throgmorton Street,  
London, E.C. 2.

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

Copies to:-

J. D. Greenway  
Esq.,  
etc., etc., etc.,  
British Legation,  
Panama.

His Excellency  
The Right Honour-  
able A. Duff  
Cooper, D.S.O.,  
etc., etc., etc.,  
British Embassy,  
Paris.

~~N.M. Political  
Representatives at  
Sofia & Bucharest~~

2 E 7946

Dr. S. Beins  
Sept. 15  
Garran  
16/9

17 September, 1947.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to ~~our~~ *the*  
*which I had with you*  
conversation on the 10th September about the  
*registered under Panama flag*  
employment of ~~Panamaian~~ shipping by the ~~US~~ *USSR*

organizers of Jewish illegal immigration to Palestine. Your Excellency will recall that I referred, in particular, to the *two* ships, "Paducah" and "Northlands", both of which are expected to attempt to embark Jewish illegal immigrants from a Black Sea port in the very near future.

2. The "Paducah" is an ex-coastguard cutter of 915 gross registered tons which has been converted to a passenger ship by her owners, the Montrose Shipping Company of New York. She left Bayonne, where she had embarked large supplies of provisions, 500 life-saving appliances and quantities of barbed wire (for defence against boarding) on the 4th August, declaring her destination as Leghorn. In actual fact, however, having called at ~~Boxe~~ <sup>in Algeria</sup> on the 13th August, she arrived at Varna in Bulgaria on the 22nd August. Either here or from a Roumanian port, <sup>according to</sup> ~~so~~ His Majesty's Government, <sup>information is likely</sup> ~~believe~~, she intends to embark approximately 2,000 Jewish illegal immigrants. I enclose a copy of this ship's manifest, showing the <sup>large</sup> ~~large~~ quantities of provisions carried by her. Your Excellency will note that, among the other items listed, are 3,372 mess kits and 3,762 canteens and cups. It is obvious that so small a ship could/

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CONTINUITY OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**



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could not possibly carry legal passengers in the numbers indicated by these supplies. In any case, this vessel has no certificate to carry passengers and, by international maritime regulations, is therefore entitled to take no more than 12. These facts alone are sufficient to make <sup>she</sup> ~~this vessel~~ <sup>sufficiently clear</sup> intended, ~~sufficiently clear~~. When I inform Your Excellency that she carries a Jewish crew of 38 (which exceeds the normal requirements of a ship of this size) and that a certain Harold Diamond, who was responsible for the arrival in Palestine waters of the illegal immigration ship "Trade Winds", is known to be connected with her, you will realize that the grounds of H.M.G.'s suspicions are strong enough to amount to <sup>virtually</sup> ~~practical~~ certainty.

3. The "Northlands" is also an ex-coastguard cutter, but of 1,273 gross registered tons and owned by the Western Trading Company of New York. The same firm owned the "President Warfield" and the "Trade Winds", both of which reached Palestine waters with Jewish illegal immigrants on board. The "Northlands", which had also taken on board provisions, life-saving appliances and barbed wire, left Bayonne on the 28th August. She declared her destination as Genoa but, without calling anywhere en route, ~~she~~ entered the Dardanelles on the 12th September. She is <sup>apparently</sup> ~~almost certainly~~ making for a Black Sea port, ~~probably in Roumania~~, with the intention of embarking Jewish illegal immigrants there. His Majesty's Government have already received reports that there is a large party of Jews equipped with <sup>alleged</sup> ~~Uruguayan~~ visas awaiting embarkation. ~~Needless to say,~~ The Uruguayan Government, who have been approached/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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"refrain, pending action by the General Assembly  
"on the report of the Special Committee on  
"Palestine, from the threat or use of force or  
"any other action which might create an  
"atmosphere prejudicial to an early settlement  
"of the question of Palestine".

5. The efforts of His Majesty's Government  
to detain the "PADUCAH" and the "NORTHLANDS" and  
to prevent these <sup>vessels from</sup> embarking Jewish illegal  
immigrants would be considerably facilitated  
by the withdrawal of Panamanian Registration.  
Representations to this effect have already  
been made to the Government of Panama  
and to the Panamanian Minister in Paris. The  
Government of Panama have, however, replied  
that Panamanian law does not permit cancellation  
of <sup>these vessels</sup> Registration unless certain unspecified  
formalities are first fulfilled. They have  
accordingly requested His Majesty's Government  
to furnish them with proof that these vessels  
are engaged in the illegal immigration traffic.

As Your Excellency will readily appreciate,  
it is quite impossible to prove that a ship is  
engaged in this traffic until she actually  
arrives in Palestine waters with Jewish  
illegal immigrants on board, by which time  
any attempt at intervention would be useless.

I am well aware of the importance attached  
by the Government of Panama to the growth of  
their Mercantile Marine and I would not  
request the withdrawal of Panamanian Registration  
from these vessels unless I was very sure that  
the suspicion with which their activities are  
regarded by His Majesty's Government was  
fully justified.

~~In the light of the facts  
given above, I am sure you will agree with me~~

/6. ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup>

122

In the light of the  
facts given above,  
I am sure that Y.E.  
will agree with me  
that that is the  
case here.

P.T.O.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry  
No.

Draft.

122 A

6. In the light of the facts given above, I am sure that Your Excellency will agree that a ~~compelling~~ <sup>has been</sup> case ~~has been~~ made out against these two ships. I am well aware of the importance attached by the Govt. of Panama to the growth of their Mercantile Marine and I would not request the withdrawal of Panamanian registration from these vessels unless I was very sure that the suspicion with which their activities are regarded by H.M.G. was fully justified. As Y.E. will readily appreciate, formal proof that a ship is engaged in this traffic can never be provided until she actually arrives in Palestine waters with Jewish illegal immigrants on board, by which time any attempt at intervention would be useless. All that ~~could~~ <sup>can</sup> be done at that juncture ~~would be~~ <sup>is</sup> to impound the vessel in accordance with the provisions of Palestine law.

7. I accordingly have the honour to invite Y.E. to convey

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1	2	3	4	5	6

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123

✓ 10/9

San etc.

(890) B.A.B. Burrows

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Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**



7-111 7-111 7-111 7-111

1980 1981 1982 1983 1984

1990年12月15日

[illegible][illegible]

Figure 1

0

[illegible]

**SECRET**

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Reference:

FO 37 / 61848

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	1			2	





country, but also for ensuring that nothing is done to prejudice the eventual decision of the United Nations. Illegal immigration not only aggravates an air sea fence and delicate situation involving armed forces and loss of life in detention, but also inflicts upon refugees suffering on the unfortunate victims of a traffic organized for purely political ends. In order to prevent the departure of ships packed with such illegal immigrants for the purpose of their escape by the International Conventions for the arrest of ships at sea and inspection and in the case of the Government are reluctant to humanitarian action as well as by consideration of their duty as a sovereign power. In this connection, the Secretary General of the United Nations invited all members of that organization to consider the request of the Government of Canada that members should co-operate in their efforts to discourage illegal immigration, and also to the resolution of the General Assembly on the subject in the following terms:-

"The General Assembly calls upon all governments to take police and administrative action on the inhabitants of the territory, to refrain, pending action by the General Assembly, from the taking of any special measures, in connection with the taking of any action which might create an atmosphere prejudicial to an early settlement of the question of Palestine".

4. The efforts of the Government of Canada to detain the "Mascot" and the "North Star" and to prevent the departure of a substantial Jewish illegal immigrant unit, or considerably facilitated the withdrawal of any arms legislation. Arrangements to this effect have since been made to the Government of Canada and the Canadian Minister in Paris. The Government of Canada have, however, replied that arrangements for the registration of

registration ...

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1	1	1	1	2	1

Reference: **FO 371** / **61848**

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Registration unless certain unspecified formalities are first fulfilled. They have accordingly requested His Majesty's Government to furnish them with proof that these vessels are engaged in the illegal immigration traffic.

6. In the light of the facts given above, I am sure that Your Excellency will agree that a compelling case has been made out against these two ships. I am well aware of the importance attached by the Government of Panama to the growth of their Mercantile Marine and I would not request the withdrawal of Panamanian registration from these vessels unless I was very sure that the suspicion with which their activities are regarded by His Majesty's Government was fully justified. As you will readily appreciate, formal proof that a ship is engaged in this traffic can never be provided until she actually arrives in Palestine waters with Jewish illegal immigrants on board, by which time any attempt at intervention would be useless. All that can be done at that juncture is to impound the vessel in accordance with the provisions of Palestine law.

7. I accordingly have the honour to invite you to convey my views to the Government of Panama and to request them, as a matter of urgency and importance, to consider whether they would not now be justified in at once withdrawing Panamanian registry from the "Edmond" and the "Northland".

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,  
(For the Secretary of State)

(Sd) B.A.B. Burrows

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1	1	2	2	2	2

Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

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# 1947

# E

PALESTINE

127

E 8453

10 SFP :

Registry  
Number

**TELEGRAM FROM**

No.

*Dated.*

*Received  
in Registry*

E8453/84/31

GRAM FROM  
441 Hendale Bennett

Saxen

1144

11. 10. 1947

12.

S. S. Padua L.

Paducah still at VARNA Sept 10, British  
Visitors & Port confirms that she had  
some thirty passengers on board who are  
staided & have been there for 3 months  
He also confirms that she is fitted up  
with benches

## Last Paper.

845-0

## References.

(Minutes.)

(Minutes.)  
Repeated to Algiers, Bordeaux, Paris.  
As this conflicts with previous reports,  
I have written to Algiers and Bordeaux  
asking for their comments.

13/9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9, 9, P.  
Krb 15

apt. board 'gen'  
algiers  
Bordaux Sept 16

g/ ~~Glaxo~~ Paris no. 1198.  
Sofia no. 223.  
Bucharest no. 414.

Sept 17  
(Index.)

(Action completed.)

9/26/10

## Next Paper.

8492

32003 F.O.P.

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**Reference:**

FO  
371

61848

127A

g. Nigham C.O.  
Robertson n.r.s.  
checked Pub. 9th  
Sept. 17

\* (Rptd. Paris 2048  
Bordeaux 25  
Algiers 65  
12 Sept.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848



E 8453

128

SEP 1

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett

No. 1144

D. 5.58 p.m. 11th September, 1947.

11th September, 1947. R. 8.15 p.m. 11th September, 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest

Angora

Cairo (British Middle East Office)

Jerusalem

Moscow

F F F F

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL

"Paducah" was still at Varna on September 10th, British visitor to Port confirms that she has some thirty passengers on board who are stated to have been there for three months. He also confirms that she is fitted up with berths.

2. Please pass to Admiralty.

[Copies sent to the Admiralty]

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

Reference: **FO** 371 / 61848

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry  
No. E 9453/84/31  
J.E.C.

Draft.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

To  
H.M. Consulate-General  
ALGIERS  
BORDEAUX

Copies to:

Paris Embassy  
Lyon Embassy  
Bordeaux Embassy

M.I.5

C.O.

Colonial Office

usual  
names

OUT FILE

15a

16 Sept 129

Dear Consulate-General,

Sofia Telegram no. 1144,  
which was repeated to you,  
reports that the "PADUCAH",  
now at VARNA, has 30 passengers  
who are stated to have been  
on board for 3 months.

2. This conflicts with  
previous reports that there  
were no passengers on board  
when she left BAYONNE or  
when she called at BONE.  
It would, of course, be fairly  
easy to conceal so small  
a number unless the ship  
was actually searched.

3. We should be  
grateful,

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371** / 61848

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129A

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

Yours ever  
Eastern Dept.

23/9

1	2	3	4	5	6	
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**Reference:**



61848

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

16th September, 1947.

(E 8453/84/31)

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Consulate-General,

Sofia telegram No. 1144, which was repeated to you, reports that the "Paducah", now at Varna, has 30 passengers who are stated to have been on board for three months.

2. This conflicts with previous reports that there were no passengers on board when she left Bayonne or when she called at Bone. It would, of course, be fairly easy to conceal so small a number unless the ship was actually searched.

3. We should be grateful, therefore, to know whether you consider it possible that these passengers were already on board when the ship left Bayonne.

4. We are sending a similar letter to His Majesty's ~~Consulate-General~~ at Algiers and copies to the Chanceries at Bucharest, Paris and Sofia.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

British Consulate-General,  
Bordeaux.

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Reference:

**FO**  
371 / 61848

834 358

E

131

E 8492

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E8492/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. *W. Herndale*  
*Bennett*

Dated SOFIA 1158  
Received in Registry } 13 Sept  
15

*S.S. Paducah*

*Refer 70 tel 1175 (E8129/84/31) N.S. Palestine  
Rep has received tel from State Dept stating  
that they are not prepared to authorize him  
to take action envisaged unless they receive an  
official request from Panamanian Govt.*

Last Paper.

841-3

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*8/ 9.9. Dist  
Sept. 16*

(Action completed.)

*9/21/10*

(Index)

*[Signature]*

Next Paper.

8548

(Minutes.)

*I think the State Dept. are being  
needlessly pedantic. Their action is, moreover,  
positively disadvantageous to us, since the  
Govt. of Panama are likely to be  
both less cooperative and more dilatory  
than their Legation in Paris.*

*[Signature]*  
(T.E. CABLE)  
15/9

*N.A. Dept.*

*I will mention this to Mr. Morley.*

*Bu. Sept 25  
Oct. 1*

*JB Sept. 16*

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132

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	1			2	
Reference: <b>FO 371</b> / <b>61848</b>					



2440  
359

1947

E

133  
E 8548

SEP 1

Registry Number } E8548/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. *Dir. N. Kelly.*  
*Angora.*

Dated *646.*  
Received in Registry } *15 Sept*  
*16*

*P. S. Podurov*

*Refer Sofia at 1144 (E8453/84/31) "Mly"*  
*Foreign Affairs inform that Podurov left*  
*JARNA on Sept 11th they could not say*  
*whether she was carrying any passport and*  
*did not know her destination.*

Last Paper.

*8492.*

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*222 Dist*  
*Sept 16.*  
*Angora*

(Action completed.)

*12/1/10*

(Index.)

*9/1/10*

Next Paper.

*8585*

(Minutes.)

*We will presumably hear more from*  
*Sofia about this.*

*S. V. 10/1*

*Now see E 8585*

*17/9*

*16/9*

1  
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Reference:

FO 371 / 61848

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134  
E 8548

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir D. Kelly  
No. 646

D. 2.04 p.m. 15th September, 1947.

15th September, 1947.

R. 5.20 p.m. 15th September, 1947.

Repeated to : Bucharest  
Sofia  
Jerusalem  
British Middle East Office,  
Cairo  
Moscow

IMPORTANT

MM

CONFIDENTIAL

Sofia telegram No. 1144.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs informs me that Paduckah left Varna on September 11th. They could not say whether she was carrying any passengers and did not know her destination.

2. Please pass to Admiralty.

Foreign Office please pass to Bucharest and Moscow as my telegrams Nos. 9 and 17 respectively.

[Repeated to Bucharest and Moscow:  
Copies sent to Admiralty.]



1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 / 61848

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**32003 F.O.P.**

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1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference:

FO 371 / 61848



AMENDMENT SLIP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

Telegram No. 1,161 of 15th September, from Sofia  
to Foreign Office.

Reference should read: "My telegram No. 1,144.  
Paducah." Paragraph 1, line 6 should read: "to  
prevent any embarkation; he was not....."

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT.

20th September, 1947.



E 136

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137

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

SEP

D. 3.30 p.m. 15th September, 1947.

1947. R. 5.05 p.m. 15th September, 1947.

3 3 3

1124

"PADUCHAH"

prevent any embolization

7

A circular stamp with Roman numerals around the perimeter and the year 1947 at the top right. The numerals are arranged in a circle, starting from I at the top and proceeding clockwise. The year 1947 is printed in a bold, sans-serif font at the top right of the circle. The center of the stamp features a small, stylized emblem or logo.

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1 2

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reference:

TO

2

87819

1947

# E

# PALESTINE

E 8589

Registry  
Number

**TELEGRAM FROM**

No.

*Dated*

*Received  
in Registry*

$y_r \} \in 8586/84/31$

in Stenochloa

Bennett  
Loria

1169  
16 Sept  
17 ~

SS Podenco L.

Re: Sofia til 1144 (E8453/84/21) Same  
Source reports that in conversation with two  
American sailors in Poduoh. He was informed  
that she carried 30 American sailors of whom  
4 were not Jews. He was offered \$20,000 for  
an unspecified period of duty on board. No secrecy  
was made of fact that ship was to be used for  
Alien Registration

## Last Paper.

85-85-

## References.

(Minutes.)

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

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(Action completed.)

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8617

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Reference:

**FO** 371 / G1848



Cypher/OTP

E 8585

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

SEP 17 1947

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Sterndale Bennett.  
No. 1169.

D. 3.26 p.m. 16th September 1947.

16th September 1947.

R. 5.50 p.m. 16th September 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest,  
Angora,  
British Middle East Office Cairo,  
Jerusalem.

0:0:0:0

CONFIDENTIAL.

My telegram No. 1144. E

Paducah.

Same source reports that in conversation with two American sailors ex "Paducah" during drinking session at Varna.

(a) He was informed that she carried 30 American sailors of whom 4 were not Jews.

(b) He was offered 20,000 dollars for an unspecified period of duty on board starting immediately from Varna. One of these sailors who appeared to be the Chief Officer of the ship stated he had already served two sentences in Acre gaol. No secrecy was made of the fact that the vessel was fitted with bunks for illegal immigrants to Palestine.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 21.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].



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PALESTINE

140

E 8617

SEP 1949

Registry Number E8617/84/31.

FROM Consul General

No. Marseilles

Dated FSKG/9W

Received in Registry S.I.  
11 Sept  
18

Last Paper

8186

References

26/10  
3/10

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8, Lohens

M.I.S.

Sept 24

8, In P.P. as above

Sept. Oct 2

6 In P.P. ②

as above

Oct 6 P.T.O.

(Action completed)

P.L. 6/10

(Index)

9/8/48

Next Paper

8620

Weekly Report on Suspect Shipping

Transmits report for W/E 11 Sept  
of situation at Marseilles re illegal  
immigrant shipping.

(Minutes.)

copy to: Mr. Lohens (M.I.S.)

18/9

In P.P. B.G. Marseilles 19/9.

copy as above

24/9

In P.P. B.G. Marseilles 26/9

copy as above

2/10

In P.P. B.G. Marseilles 3/10

copy as above

10/10

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8, P.P. (3)  
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✓ Oct 21

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**





British Consulate-General,  
Marseilles.

11th September, 1947.

FGKG/GW

Secret S1.

E 8617

With the compliments

of

H.M. Consul-General.

(Weekly report on suspect  
shipping.)

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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British Consulate-General,  
Marseilles.

11th September, 1947.

FGKG/gw

Secret S1.

Dear Chancery,

Jewish illegal immigration. The following is a report of the situation at Marseilles and at other ports in our Consular District during the week ended 11th September, 1947 :-

"BURHANIYE"	- Left Sète on 4th September for Cyprus; believed to be in ballast.
"ALBERTINA"	- No change.
"ARKANGELOS"	- No change.

We are copying this letter to Eastern Department, Foreign Office.

Yours ever,

Marseilles.

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Paris.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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143  
British Consulate-General,  
Marseilles.

19th September, 1947.

FGKG/gw

Secret S1.

8617 84 31.

INDEXED

With the compliments

of

H.M. Consul - General.

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**



144  
British Consulate-General,  
Marseilles.

19th September, 1947.

FGKG/gw

Secret S1.

Dear Chancery,

Jewish illegal immigration. The following  
is a report of the situation at Marseilles and  
other ports in our Consular District during the  
week ended 18th September, 1947 :-

"ALBERTINA" - No change.

"ARKANGELOS" - No change.

We are copying this letter to Eastern  
Department, Foreign Office.

Yours ever,

Marseilles.

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Paris.

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**FGKG/gw**  
**Secret S1.**

Jewish illegal immigration. The following is a report of the situation at Marseilles and other ports in our Consular District during the week ended 25th September, 1947 :-

"ARKANGELOS" - No change.

Yours ever,

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Paris.

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No.

8 OCT 1947

E 861 7/84 / 21 E 147

HIS Majesty's Consul-General at Marseilles  
presents his compliments to Eastern Dept. F.O.  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

British Consulate-General,  
Marseilles.

INDEXED

3rd October, 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Our letter of 26th September to Paris.  
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Weekly report on suspect shipping 2nd October, 1947.	Jewish illegal immigration.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61848**

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148

**FGKG/gw**  
**Secret S1**

Jewish illegal immigration. The following is a report of the situation at Marseilles and at other ports in our Consular District during the week ended 2nd October, 1947 :-

We are copying this letter to Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office.

Marseilles.

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Paris.

12

149.  
END

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Pièce . . . . . 61848

**Department of origin under Section 3 (4)**

**of the Public Records Act, 1958**

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